FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-92-010
Wednesday
15 January 1992

Daily Report
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FBIS-EAS-92-010 *15 January 1992*

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Japan

Mercedes Executive Says Auto Market Not Closed

OW1401140792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1237 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—The President of Mercedes-Benz Japan Co. said Tuesday that the Japanese auto market is "not closed" and his company is boosting its sales in Japan through continuous business effort.

Michael Bassermann's remarks came at the opening ceremony of a new service center in Hitachi, Ibaraki Prefecture.

Eberhard Herzog, an executive with Mercedes-Benz AG in Germany, also spoke at the ceremony, saying German Chancellor Helmut Kohl would never come to Japan with the same purpose as U.S. President George Bush.

Benz ranked at the top in foreign car imports into Japan in 1991 with a 17.3 percent share of the imported car market. It sold 34,187 vehicles.

End of Fisheries Talks With ROK 'Expected'

OW1401135992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1249 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japan and South Korea are expected to conclude fisheries talks aimed at regulating operations in waters off Japan by the end of the month at the earliest, the Fisheries Agency reported Tuesday.

The negotiations have been under way since April last year.

Toshihiko Tsuruoka, director general of the fisheries agency, said he reported progress in the negotiations to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who is due to leave Thursday on a three-day visit to South Korea.

Tsuruoka said agreement has been reached on major points, including Japan's financial contribution to a marine resources management center to be built on Cheju Island off southern Korea.

Tokyo Plans To Resume Official Aid to Cambodia

OW1501043892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0347 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 15 KYODO—Japan will grant 4 billion yen in aid to Cambodia, resuming official development assistance to the war-torn country for the first time in 17 years, the SANKEI SHIMBUN reported Wednesday.

Cambodia will use the money to rebuild a bridge in downtown Phnom Penh destroyed in 1972 during the war, the report said.

Japan also is studying plans to provide medical supplies and humantarian goods to Cambodia, it said.

Japan will send a government mission to Cambodia in late January to study how to promote Japan's help in rehabilitating the war-devastated country, the SANKEI said.

Steelmakers, Russia To Resume Pipe-Export Talks

OW1401084392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0810 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Four major Japanese steelmakers said Tuesday they will resume talks Wednesday with the Russian Federation on the sale of about 700,000 tons of seamless pipe worth 500 million dollars.

The companies, including the world's largest steelmaker Nippon Steel Corp., said they expect Russia to respond to payment terms proposed at technical-level talks in December.

The Japanese group offered a supplier's credit repayable in installments in exchange for oil as collateral, company officials said.

The officials said the Japanese side hopes to hammer out financing terms and prices for the pipe during the negotiations.

Russia's oil and gas corporation wants the pipe to develop new oil wells at the Tyumen oil field in Siberia.

Prosecutors: Abe Influenced Bankrolling Kyowa

OW1401183392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1431 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Former Cabinet Minister Fumio Abe, arrested Monday for allegedly taking bribes, was asked by his benefactor Kyowa Co., to enlist the support of a Tokyo-based real estate firm for a construction project, prosecutors said Tuesday.

Prosecutors did not identify the real estate company which Abe, 69, allegedly approached in search of funds for Kyowa's participation in the "White Dome" stadium project in Hokkaido, sources close to the investigation said.

Abe is believed to have received more than 500 million yen between the summer of 1989 to the fall of 1990 from Kyowa, a steel frame maker which went bankrupt in November 1990.

Of the amount, prosecutors say 80 million yen was paid to Abe in the hope of landing lucrative contracts while he was director general of the Hokkaido Development Agency between August 1989 and January 1990.

Kyowa was especially interested in construction and material procurement contracts for the planned 25.2-billion-yen domed stadium project to be funded by the Hokkaido prefectural government, Sapporo's municipal office and a number of private firms, prosecutors said.

Abe was also bribed to supply Kyowa with confidential government information regarding another 300 billion yen worth of related infrastructure improvements such as highway construction, they said.

In a bid to benefit Kyowa, Abe allegedly introduced senior officials of his agency and the Sapporo chamber of the commerce and industry to Kyowa Vice President Goro Moriguchi, who is now standing trial on fraud charges, the prosecutors said.

Meanwhile, the Tokyo district court granted a request by prosecutors to hold Moriguchi and Abe, who has denied taking bribes from Kyowa.

Paper: Abe Demanded Money for Miyazawa Faction

OW1501030392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0211 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 15 KYODO—Fumio Abe, an ex-cabinet minister arrested on bribery charges, demanded a 1 billion yen donation from a steel frame maker for Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's faction in the governing Liberal Democratic Party, the ASAHI SHIMBUN reported Wednesday.

The now bankrupt Kyowa Corp. paid more than 100 million yen in response to the 1990 request, the ASAHI said.

Abe, 69, former state minister and director general of the Hokkaido Development Agency, is known to have accepted a total of 500 million yen from Kyowa. He was the Miyazawa faction's secretary general until December.

Prosecutors arrested him Monday on suspicion of accepting bribes, alleging that 80 million yen of the total he received was a bribe in connection with his duties as a cabinet minister.

Kyowa paid the money to gain Abe's influence and privileged access to official information on public works projects while he was head of the Hokkaido Development Agency, prosecution sources said.

A senior official of the Miyazawa faction has denied any faction involvement in the deals between Abe and Kyowa, the ASAHI said.

The MAINICHI SHIMBUN reported Wednesday that another senior member of the Miyazawa faction, Jun Shiozaki, was involved in the Kyowa bribery scandal.

As part of its efforts to gain political favor, Kyowa gave 20 million yen to Shiozaki, former state minister and director general of the Management and Coordination Agency, in 1989, the MAINICHI said. A secretary to Shiozaki denied he has accepted funds from Kyowa, the MAINICHI said.

Abe Reportedly Denies Accepting Bribes

OW1501112092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1030 GMT 15 JAN 92

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 15 KYODO—Former cabinet minister Fumio Abe, under arrest on suspicion of accepting 80 million yen in bribes from a bankrupt steel frame maker, denied the allegations, informed sources said Wednesday.

Abe, who was arrested on Monday, is a former director general of the Hokkaido Development Agency and a close political ally of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Abe is being questioned by prosecutors on suspicion of receiving 80 million yen in bribes from Goro Moriguchi, former vice president of Kyowa Co., between 1989 and 1990 in exchange for his influence in providing Kyowa with confidential information on public works projects to help boost the firm's business opportunities.

The incumbent House of Representatives legislator allegedly leaked information on the planned site of the "White Dome" stadium project in Sapporo and the planned route of a 70-kilometer stretch of highway in southern Hokkaido at the request of Kyowa.

The former secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's faction headed by Miyazawa, Abe allegedly accepted the bribes in connection with Kyowa's request to secure huge low-interest loans from a government lending institution to help fund the firm's resort project at a town in Hokkaido.

The bribes were allegedly part of some 500 million yen Moriguchi paid to Abe, the sources said.

Of the 500 million yen, Abe received 160 million yen for donations to former Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki and several tens of millions for donations to Jun Shiozaki, former director general of the Management and Coordination Agency, the sources said.

Prosecutors are considering questioning Suzuki and Shiozaki to determine whether they received any money from Abe, the sources said.

Kyowa allegedly paid the 160 million yen in a bid to secure the former premier's consent to assume the post of honorary chairman of an exclusive private club planned by Kyowa and to obtain permission to develop a golf course from Ibaraki prefectural authorities, the sources said.

Abe is thought to have accepted the money from Moriguchi to secure the collaboration of Shiozaki, who has connections with major trading house Marubeni Corp., in an attempt to settle Kyowa's wrangling with Marubeni over a fraud scandal, the sources said.

Moriguchi is now standing trial on charges of defrauding two other trading houses of 3.65 billion yen in 1990 by fabricating contract documents for bogus steel frame orders in collusion with a senior Marubeni official.

In a parallel probe, the prosecutors of the special investigating squad of the Tokyo district public prosecutors office are currently questioning Abe's political secretaries and treasurer to determine the facts behind the Kyowa bribery case, the sources said.

In a related revelation, the ASAHI SHIMBUN daily reported in its Wednesday edition that Abe demanded a 1 billion yen donation from Kyowa for the Miyazawa faction in January 1990 in exchange for persuading Suzuki to assume the post of honorary chairman of the "Kojimachi Club."

Kyowa agreed to pay more than 100 million yen as an initial payment in response to the request, the ASAHI said.

Kunikichi Saito, a senior faction official, was quoted as telling the daily the faction received only 10 million yen in political donations from Abe in June of that year, but that the faction had not requested any donation from Abe.

Meanwhile, the MAINICHI SHIMBUN reported that Kyowa gave 20 million yen to Shiozaki, a senior member of the Miyazawa faction, in 1989 to secure his help in persuading Marubeni to accept postponement of debts Kyowa owed the company.

Shiozaki visited the Tokyo headquarters of Marubeni on June 12 of that year to ask the then Marubeni chairman, Kazuo Haruna, with whom he was acquainted, to give favorable treatment to Kyowa, the MAINICHI said.

Death of LDP's Kumagai Shifts Party Positions

OW1501035392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0245 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 15 KYODO—Conservative Diet member Tasaburo Kumagai died of pneumonia at a hospital in his home constituency of Fukui on Wednesday, his family said. He was 85.

Kumagai, a Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] member in the House of Councillors, once served as state minister and director general of the Science and Technology Agency. He was adviser to Kumagai Gumi Co., a major general contractor.

He was elected to the second chamber five times from Fukui Prefecture.

The following is a new table of the strength of political parties in both houses of the Diet as of Wednesday.

House of Representatives	Parties	House of Councillors
278	LDP	114
138	SDPJ [Social Democratic Party of Japan]	73
46	Komeito	20
16	JCP [Japan Communist Party]	14
14	DSP [Democratic Socialist Party]/ Sports	10
5	Shimpo Minshu Rengo	—
—	Rengo Sangiin	11
—	Sangiin Club	4
5	Independents	4
10	Vacancies	2
512	total	252

Banker Sees Government Failing To Achieve Goal

OW1401084192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0747 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—The government will be unable to achieve its annual economic growth target of 3.5 percent for fiscal 1992 unless it implements stimulative measures, a leading banker said Tuesday.

Kenichi Suematsu, chairman of the Federation of Bankers' Associations of Japan, told a press conference that he foresees economic growth of around 3 percent for the next fiscal year beginning on April 1.

Suematsu, who is also president of Mitsui Taiyo Kobe Bank, said, however, that the rate of economic expansion might be enough to keep the economy on stable footing.

Nissan Slashes Domestic Sales Target for 199?

OW1401115092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1110 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japan's No. 2 automaker, Nissan Motor Co., said Tuesday it has lowered its domestic car sales target for 1992 because of a bleak outlook for vehicle demand.

The Tokyo-based company said the new projection targets sales of 1,388,000 vehicles, down from the originally set 1,408,000.

The new target is still 3.1 percent higher than the actual 1990 sales of 1,346,000 vehicles, the company said.

The company said the original target was set on the premise that the consumption tax on the purchase of cars would be lowered to 3 percent from the present 6 percent, beginning April 1.

The government, confronting a substantial tax revenue shortfall in fiscal 1992, decided to only reduce the tax to 4.5 percent.

Nissan officials said the smaller tax reduction will trim total vehicle sales on the domestic market in 1992 to 5.85 million vehicles, down from the originally projected 5.94 million.

Mongolia

Great People's Hural Approves New Name 11 Jan

OW1101083592 Beijing XINHUA in English 0759 GMT 11 Jan 92

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, January 11 (XINHUA)—The Great People's Hural (congress) of Mongolia today decided to change the national name from "the Mongolian People's Republic" to "the State of Mongolia."

The draft bill was passed by a majority vote at the second meeting of the 12th session of the hural this morning.

The on-going session, which opened on November 11 last year, is giving a final touch to the draft of a new constitution which is expected to be formally approved on Monday, according to conference sources.

Under the constitution, the name "the State of Mongolia" will be officially used after the parliamentary and presidential elections this summer.

The sources added that the second meeting of the 12th session will also discuss the working reports submitted by the Small Hural and the government.

President: Nation To Pursue Peace-Loving Policy

OW1301114992 Beijing XINHUA in English 1130 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, January 13 (XINHUA)—Mongolia will change its name from "the Mongolian People's Republic" to "the State of Mongolia" as of February 12, 1992, and will also adopt a new national emblem and flag.

This is stipulated in the new Mongolian constitution passed this morning at the second meeting of the 12th session of the Great People's Hural (parliament) of Mongolia with a vote of 327-1 with two abstentions. The new constitution will go into effect also at 11 o'clock, on February 12.

After the parliament approved the new constitution, Mongolian President Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat addressed the meeting.

He said that Mongolia will pursue a peace-loving foreign policy and will work hard to synchronize its development with the other nations in the world.

Mongolia will develop full-scale relations with its two big neighboring countries, and develop relationship of equality and mutual benefit with other nations in the world, he added.

He also said Mongolia will work for the resolution of the issues between Mongolia and other countries through political means, and will maintain a crack army for national defense.

The meeting of the Great People's Hural began on November 11, 1991. During the next few days, the meeting will also discuss the work reports submitted by the Mongolian Small Hural and the government.

North Korea

Kim Il-song, Foreign Leaders Exchange Greetings

SK1401110292 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Pyongyang January 14 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, exchanged new year's cards with foreign party and state leaders on the occasion of the new year 1992.

He exchanged new year's cards with Ranasinghe Premadasa, president of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; Ilyas al-Hirawi, president of the Republic of Lebanon; Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic; Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation; Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of the Republic of Tunisia; Lansana Conte, president of the Republic of Guinea, chairman of the Transitional Council of National Redressment and head of state; Juvenal Habyarimana, president of the Republic of Rwanda; Veerasamy Ringadoo, governor-general of Mauritius; Vere Cornwall Bird, prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda; Khaleda Zia, prime minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; Eddie Fenech Adami, prime minister of the Republic of Malta; and Dhmitrios Khristofias, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus; Indrajit Gupta, general secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India; Jose Gonzalez Espinosa, chairman, Esteban Diaz Jaquez, secretary general, and Jose Oviedo Landestoy, international secretary, of the Central Committee of the Dominican Labour Party; Miroslav Grebenicek, chairman of the Czech-Moravia Federation of the Communist Party and Democratic Left Party of Czechoslovakia; Aleksander Kwasiniewski, chairman of the Supreme Board of the Social-Democracy [Party] of the Republic of Poland; Rolf Hagel, chairman of the Labour Party-Communists of Sweden; Alvaro Cunhal, secretary-general of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Portugal; Peter Symon, general secretary, and Jack McPhillips, president, of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Australia; and Julius K. Nyerere, former chairman of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania.

Yemeni Envoy Presents Credentials to Kim Il-song

SK1501121792 Pyongyang XCNA in English 1039 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Pyongyang January 15 (KCNA)—Husayn Tahir Muhammad Bin Yahya, newly-appointed Yemeni ambassador to Korea, today presented his credentials to the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and foreign minister, and an official of the Yemeni Embassy here were present on the occasion.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the ambassador after receiving the credentials.

He was presented with a gift by the ambassador.

Kim Chong-il Receives Messages From Abroad

SK1501073392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Pyongyang January 15 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings on his election as supreme commander of the Korean People's Army from General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Peru (Red Motherland) Alberto Moreno, president of the Caribbean National Movement Herving Chung and from the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Constitutional Democratic Rally of Tunisia.

Warmly congratulating comrade Kim Chong-il on his election as supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, the messages expressed hope for the development of friendly relations between Korea and their countries and between the Workers' Party of Korea and their parties.

On the new year 1992, he received a message from Andres Regiardo Sayan, general secretary of the "Cambio 90" movement of Peru.

WPK's Choe Tae-pok Heads Delegation to Madras

SK1501124392 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 11 Jan 92

[Text] The 14th congress of the Communist Party of India-Marxist [CPI-M] was held in Madras, a local city in India, 3-9 January.

The Workers Party of Korea [WPK] delegation led by Comrade Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee; and delegations of various countries' parties were invited.

The head of our country's party delegation delivered a congratulatory address at the first day session.

Following discussions about the drafts of resolutions on political and ideological issues that the party Central Committee submitted, resolutions concerned were adopted at the session. The party's unshakable will on adhering to communism are represented in the resolutions.

(H.S. Thrugt), member of the Political Bureau of the CPI-M Central Committee, summed up the discussions on political issues: Pointing out that the frustration of socialism in the Soviet Union was never due to faults and weaknesses in socialism, he stressed that socialist cause is just and that socialism will certainly be victorious.

He pointed out that even though socialism in East Europe has been frustrated and the imperialists' maneuvers against communism and socialism have been unprecedentedly strengthened, the DPRK, China, Cuba, and Vietnam have firmly maintained socialist principles and have brilliantly constructed socialism.

He noted the DPRK in particular, saying: We are deeply concerned that the imperialists, including U.S. imperialists, have recently put pressure on the DPRK about nuclear inspection. The DPRK has taken a principled stance against the U.S. imperialists' unjust pressure on a nuclear inspection. We resolutely support the stance of the WPK and the DPRK. We support the Korean people's struggle to withdraw U.S. Forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea and to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free peace zone. The Korean people are arduously struggling against the U.S. military threat and pressure. Thus, we should send positive solidarity to the struggle of the Korean people.

The issue of the Korean reunification should be resolved by founding a confederal republic, while the systems in the North and the South should remains as they are. I think this is reasonable. Reunification through a confederal system, which was put forward by the WPK and the DPRK Government, conforms to the Korean reality and the desire of the Korean people. We should continue to support the efforts of the DPRK and the Korean people to independently and peacefully resolve the issue of national reunification.

(H.S. Thrugt) was elected general secretary of the CPI-M Central Committee.

The general secretary pointed out in a closing address that the CPI-M, which is based on Marxism-Leninism and has consistently applied it to the Indian condition, will go forward in the face of anticommunist propaganda.

Daily: Chuche Idea Guides Age of Independeuce

SK1401140092 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1000 GMT 10 Jan 92

[NODONG SINMUN 10 January special article: "The Great Chuche Idea is an Immortal Revolutionary Banner Indicating the Road to an Age of Independence"]

[Text] Ours is an age of the great chuche, a new turning point in developing human history.

An event of great significance in exploring and developing the chuche age is that the great chuche idea has been established and that history is advancing along the road leading to independence under the chuche banner.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's revolutionary idea, the chuche idea, is a great guiding idea that indicates the road for the age of independence to advance along, as well as a scientific revolutionary theory that indicates the road on which to consummate the cause of mankind's liberation.

The founding of the chuche idea, a culmination of developing the ideological history of mankind, shines as the greatest achievement Comrade Kim Il-song has accomplished in time and history.

Our people, who have ushered in 1992, a meaningful year, are full of boundless national glory of advancing along the socialist road under the tested guidance of the party center, upholding the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the head of the party and revolution and are vigorously moving toward the hopeful future.

1. The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's revolutionary idea, the chuche idea, is a great revolutionary idea representing the new age in the development of human history.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] has noted: Comrade Kim Il-song's revolutionary idea, the great revolutionary banner of the age of chuche, is a great guiding idea, theory, and method of the revolution representing the whole historical age involving the present and the communist future.

A new age of history is to be explored and made to advance under the banner of a great revolutionary idea. The greatness of a revolutionary idea lies in how to reflect the demands of the times and in how correctly it indicates the future of the times.

Although there have been many trends of thought in the history of human ideology, never before has there been a great revolutionary idea that has opened as gloriously the era of independence and that has indicated the eternal future of mankind.

The chuche idea has already become a code of faith for all the people who love justice and truth and aspire for independence. It is an irreversible stream of the times that history advances along a road indicated by the chuche banner.

Already at a time when the whole world was groaning in the fetters of slavery, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, with extraordinary intelligence and clairvoyant scientific insight, founded the chuche idea, the revolutionary idea reflecting the demand of the tumultuous new age, with deep insight into it, thus opening up a new road of historical switchover in the struggle of the people for independence.

After unfurling a new age of history, the age of chuche, the great leader has never stopped developing and enriching it with new theories and theses through his unending ideological and theoretical activities.

The chuche idea is a brilliant summarization of the immortal revolutionary achievements and creative ideological and theoretical activities that the great leader has accomplished in the course of guiding the revolution and construction.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's long and glorious history of his epic revolutionary struggle shines as an immortal history of the founding of the guiding idea of the times and its consummation as a unique ideological and theoretical system in the course of the most arduous revolutionary practice.

The chuche idea fully explains a man-centered outlook on the world, on consummated revolutionary theories, on strategy and tactics, on theories on leadership, and on leadership method.

The chuche idea, which has proved its vitality and creative and universal nature, is a revolutionary banner providing scientific answers to all questions raised by the new age of history, propelling the times to develop themselves.

The chuche idea, above all, indicates a road of fully meeting the aspirations and demands of the popular masses for an independent life.

The characteristics that essentially distinguishes our age from all previous ages lie in the fact that the people explore their fate independently and creatively, holding it in their own hands. The great exploits of the chuche idea are that it has opened the most glorious age advancing along a mass-centered road for the first time in the development of history.

The chuche idea is a thoroughgoing revolutionary idea which demands that defending and realizing the popular masses' independence be set as the major goal behind the revolution and that the revolution be carried on until such time as the independence is completely realized.

For the people to become dignified masters of their own fate, it is imperative for them to engage in the revolution; if they are to win victory in the revolution, they should have a correct guiding ideology that illuminates the road on which to explore their fate.

To date there have been many sets of thoughts and theories on the revolution. Not a single one of them, however, has been able to identify the revolution as a struggle designed to realize the popular masses' independence completely and fully.

The chuche idea was the first idea in history to expound that independence is the life and soul of man. It has helped the popular masses clearly realize for what they had to fight for a long time at the cost of their blood and sweat. It was thanks to the chuche idea that all the

revolutionary theories centered on the demands and aspirations of the popular masses desiring for an independent and creative life have been developed and that revolutionary struggles have been waged at all stages and in all areas.

The chuche idea gives flawless answers to and ways of implementing the principle, policy of struggle, strategy and tactics, and fighting method for fully realizing the popular masses' independence.

The task of completely realizing the popular masses's independence is a complicated and difficult struggle to create the new after cleaning all manner of historical filth that has accumulated for thousands of years. It is a long-term enterprise that must be carried on for generations to break through a long and treacherous road.

Thanks to the chuche idea, the popular masses have learned the profound truth that they must continue the revolution until independence is completely realized without interruption and that they must solve all the questions arising in the revolution and construction independently and creatively on the basis of a chuche-oriented stand. Especially, it indicates how to make the popular masses full-fledged masters of the world and their own destinies by thoroughly transforming nature, society, and man in keeping with the popular masses' demand to live and develop in an independent way.

Nature, society, and man are the elements that form the world. For the popular masses to become the masters of their own destiny, it is imperative to remake nature, society, and man in conformity with the demand of chuche.

The job of remaking nature, society, and man constitutes the three parts of the popular masses' creative activity for realizing independence.

It was thanks to the chuche idea that the original idea that man is the master of nature, society, and himself was propounded and infallible answers were given to questions of principle arising in letting the popular masses hold the position as masters of the world and play such a role. This has revealed a proud reality in which the value and dignity of man is being exalted to the highest level and their independence is being fully realized.

The chuche idea also indicates the most correct road for the people of each country to carry on their country's revolution as the masters in a responsible way.

The world is composed of many countries and peoples. Without each country's victory of the cause of independence, it is impossible to think about the cause of man's independence.

The age of independence is referred to as an age of revolution because it is an age during which revolution is launched in all countries and made to advance toward victory.

An important indication that distinguishes our age from all previous ages is that the oppressed people who had a history of leading pent-up lives only as subjects have opened their eyes and embarked upon a road of resistance and struggle.

In the past age, when the whole world was in the colonial fetters of the imperialists and when the chuche-oriented revolutionary forces were not prepared in each country, the people were unable to carry out their country's revolution independently. As a result, it was long considered an acceptable formula that without depending on others or receiving help from others it was impossible to win victory in the revolution.

The new reality hundreds of millions of people awakening from sleep that lasted for centuries and revolution being launched broadly in many forms throughout the world urgently required that people become masters of their own fate and carry out their country's revolution on their own rather than depending on others.

Only an idea that could provide answers to the demands of the times as such could play a role as an ideological weapon capable of indicating a road for the people to follow and energetically propeling mankind's cause of independence.

The Korean revolution was a revolution that was riddled with all the tasks imposed by a new age of history. The Korean revolution could not move forward even an inch without overcoming toadyism and doctrinism and without solving all the problems arising in the revolution and construction in conformity with the prevailing realities of our country, independently and creatively.

While breaking through the road of a complex and arduous era, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song discovered a precious truth that only when each country's revolution depends on its chuche-oriented forces can it win the victory. Based on this truth, he led the Korean people to carry out the Korean revolution as the masters with their own strength.

The great chuche idea illuminates the road for all people to carry out their country's revolution by having an attitude worthy of masters from an independent and creative position, thus pioneering their destiny and the nation's destiny.

The independent and creative position are basic positions which the people of each nation should maintain in the revolution and construction.

The chuche idea opened a breakthrough in the outdated era, which was dominated by the idea of subjugation and flunkeyism over a long period of time. The chuche idea also opened a wide road for all people to excellently carry out the revolution and construction in their countries.

In our era, not only a few nations but all nations and people are vigorously advancing along the road of independence. The flag of chuche is flying high before us.

The chuche idea is an immortal banner to lead the revolution in our era in each step to victory. The people's cause of independence is to win victory and to be accomplished by going through various steps and domains. Thanks to the great chuche idea, the road of accomplishing national liberation, class liberation, and emancipation of men has been comprehensively elucidated.

In particular, the chuche idea gave a clear and perfect explanation to the theoretical and practical issues occurring in the socialist and communist construction. This is a great achievement made with the chuche idea.

The people's independent interest and socialism are consistent with each other. The cause of independence in our era is a struggle to carry on socialism. The urgent historic task of the new era for expounding complete ideas and theories concerning socialist and communist construction has been brilliantly resolved by the chuche idea.

The struggle to build socialism and communism is a very complex struggle to create the new by eliminating various outdated remnants of history. This struggle is a difficult struggle to break through the strange road which no one has traversed before. In our era, with merely the fragmentary and outlined [yunkwakjogin] theories in building communism which were put forward in the past, we cannot successfully build socialism and communism.

The chuche idea expounded scientifically the outlook on the world that the people should cherish, not only today but also in the future when they will live in communist societies, and the form of their activities; the appearance of communist society and legitimate course of building this society; the principle, strategy, and tactics that should be maintained in the course of building communist society; and the guideline for struggle. The chuche idea also comprehensively elucidated the method of leadership of the ruling party, as well as the method of leading socialist and communist construction.

In particular, the theory on the main force of the revolution, which is formed on the basis of unity among the leader, the party, and the masses and on the socialist cause; the theory on strengthening the party's and the leader's leadership; the theory on simultaneously occupying the political and ideological fortress and material fortress in the socialist and communist construction, are the unique ideological and theoretical assets which gave answers to the questions which were not resolved before.

Thanks to the chuche idea, the popular masses came to clearly understand the prospect, goals, and methods of socialist and communist construction. Thus, they are able to carry out the socialist cause to the end without any deviation.

It is a solemn truth proven by the practice of revolution that when they advance by highly upholding the banner of the chuche idea, the popular masses can advance straight to the bright future of socialism and communism under any storm and wind.

2. The great chuche idea is an ever-victorious, indomitable revolutionary idea which brought about a gigantic revolutionary reform in the era of independence.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, has indicated: The chuche idea is exercising great influence on the ideological and mental life of mankind and on the course of revolutionary reform in the world.

The chuche idea is arousing great sympathy among the world's people and vigorously inspiring the historic movement of our era toward independence.

The great revolutionary idea creates great reality, and the greatness of ideology is displayed by its innovative role. Our era is embroidered with exciting revolutionary reforms unprecedented in history.

Without the gigantic innovative role of the chuche idea, no one can think of the miraculous events taking place in the revolutionary development of our era. The innovative role of the chuche idea in world history is clearly demonstrated by the basic turn effected in the people's ideological and mental life.

The popular masses stand in the center of the development of the time and history. Therefore, reform of the time finds expression in the people's ideological and mental life.

The emancipation of mankind is, in essence, the emancipation of men. What is most important in emancipating men is ideological liberation from restrictions by various outdated ideologies. The people were ideologically liberated from the yokes of various mysticism, fatalism, flunkeyism, and doctrinism, thus becoming aware that the master of their destiny is themselves and that they have the might to pioneer their destiny. This is an important factor distinguishing the chuche era from the past.

Never before in the long history of the development of mankind was there a more serious and fundamental reform than such changes in the domain of ideology and consciousness. The oppressed and exploited people, who lived for a long time without realizing the truth that they are the masters of their destiny, became aware of their position and role in the world. This is indeed a very significant event in the world's history.

The great idea that led this significant reform and firmly placed the history of mankind onto the track of independence is none other than the chuche idea.

The chuche idea, which is the working class' perfect philosophical outlook on the world, brings men to the front as the masters of the world and of their own destiny and as the innovators of the world and pioneers of their destiny.

Nothing is more important for men than their destiny. It is an aspiration of men, which no one can block, to believe in and follow the ideology which gives answers to pioneering their destiny.

This is clearly proven by today's reality in which believing in and following the chuche idea have become a trend of the time. The time of subjugation and subordination when the people yielded to their destiny and tried to pioneer their destiny by depending on other people has gone forever.

Our people who were born in the fatherland of the chuche idea became proud, dignified, and independent people who thoroughly assumed the chuche idea as their faith, who live and carry out the revolution always with their own spirit at any place, and who treasure independence more than their own lives.

It is our people's constitutional ideological and mental trait to think of and act in all issues based on the spirit of national independence and on the firm chuche-oriented position without depending on other people and without wavering. Such a lofty trait by our people is vigorously displayed in the persistent struggle carried out by our people by upholding the slogan, "Let us live in our own way!" offered by the party.

Now no one is in the position of ordering us to do this and that. We are independently pioneering our destiny according to our own decision and principle.

Our people, who had the destiny of slaves forced on them in the past and clung to flunkeyism and doctrinism, have been fostered as proud people with a lofty awareness of independence and a strong, our nation is best spirit. This is the most precious fruit and great victory brought about by the chuche idea.

The innovative role of the chuche idea is that it is vigorously inspiring the historic cause for building a new independent society. It is a long-cherished desire of the popular masses to build a new independent society.

Mankind suffered pains and misfortunes while undergoing numerous contempt for a long time in the exploitive society, which is dominated by exploitation, poverty, and starvation.

A bright era of independence has come under the rays of the chuche idea, an era in which the miserable exploitive society has been overthrown and a new society built to give the people freedom and happiness.

That several hundred million people around the world are advancing on the road of building a new society, which is the road of independence and prosperity—not along the road of capitalism, which is the road of subjugation and collapse—has become a main theme in history. There is no force that can block the path of the popular masses, who are advancing toward socialism along the track of independence. The birth of the popular masses-centered and chuche-oriented socialism in our country for the first time in history was our proudest momentous and innovative change in the history of social development.

The socialism built in our country is a most superior society, which outstandingly embodies a human being's social characteristics. Building a society of justice—in which man can seek the kind of life he should lead—was an ideal that the people, who had been treated with contempt, had dreamed of for a long period of time.

Only by building a society which embodies men's independence, creativity, and consciousness and which accords the demands of collectivism can the working masses be free from exploitation and oppression forever and can all the people lead an independent and creative life, glorifying human dignity and value on the highest plane with equal political right and freedom. The communist society, the highest ideal of mankind, is a complete popular masses- centered society in which all the people are happy.

The popular masses-centered society is the noble gain which our people have voluntarily chosen and achieved with their blood in the course of pioneering a new era of history under the banner of independence. It is the great national dignity and pride of our people that they have built a popular masses-centered society for the first time on this land in the Orient, which used to be a colony, and that they have thus created the model of socialism. The new era has guided the popular masses in building a society in which they are the master of everything and everything serves them. Herein lies the human-historic exploits of the chuche idea.

The banner of the chuche idea is flying in the world today as the banner of socialism. The great innovative role of the chuche idea also lies in the fact that it has opened a new era of independence against imperialism. Since imperialism appeared on the scene, the people of the world have been forced to suffer the miserable destiny of colonial bondage. Many people have shed blood and devoted their lives in the sacred struggle to end the history of the imperialists' sanguinary oppression and plundering. The whole history of pioneering and advancing the era of independence has been not only a history of fierce struggle against imperialism, but also a proud course in which the anti-imperialist forces for independence are strengthened and victorious. History, despite numerous twists and turns, has advanced along the road on which imperialism is destined to be weakened and the anti-imperialist forces are to be victorious. This rule of the development of history will not be changed.

The Korean revolution, which started under the banner of the Down-With-Imperialism Union, is the cause of independence which has advanced along the road of struggle against imperialism. Our people defeated the Japansese imperialists and the U.S. imperialists who dreamed of dominating the world and thus were able to bash in the stuck-up nose of the rascals. This was because

they struggled holding aloft the banner of the great chuche idea. The chuche idea, created in the flames of the anti-imperialist national liberation revolution, led the anti-Japanese armed struggle to victory and was the beginning of the downhill of U.S. imperialism, thereby proving to mankind that imperialism is by no means unconquerable. Thus, the road on which small and weak nations—which were oppressed and treated with contempt—could victoriously fight against the brutal imperialists, firmly grasping their destiny in their own hands, was opened for the first time.

Because of the strategy and tactics elucidated by the chuche idea the revolutionary people have been able to smash the imperialists' brutal schemes at every phase and thus to firmly advance along the road of independence. The strategy of directing the sharp edge of struggle to U.S. imperialism, the idea of forming an anti-imperialist, an anti-U.S. joint front, and an anti-imperialist united front; the idea of strengthening solidarity and cooperation among developing countries on the basis of collective self-reliance; and other unique strategies and tactics in the anti-imperialist struggle have served as an immortal banner that vigorously inspires the revolutionary people to the struggle for checking and frustrating the imperialists' maneuvers for aggression and war and for smashing their arbitrariness.

The imperialists, while enforcing their policy of strength, are persistently adhering to their strategy of a peaceful transition aimed at undermining and subverting the socialist countries from within.

This is, however, an expression of the imperialists' weakness, not their powerful position. It is their final kicking before demise and death. The more frantically they writhe, the stronger the resistance they will elicit from the people advancing along the road leading to independence.

Although the imperialists' actions are now insolent and arrogant, indulging in bravado and bluster, it is the independent people fighting in defense of justice and truth, peace and principle, who play a leading role in making history.

The people who are under the banner of anti-imperialist struggle are being made to see through the imperialists' crafty and sinister maneuvers. They are being awakened to them more clearly each day and are penetrating through the reactionary nature of the strategy of a peaceful transition set in motion by the imperialists.

The days when the imperialists had people around the world at their beck and call, when the imperialists held those people's destinies in their hands, will never return. No reactionary force can reverse the course of history that has been put firmly in its orbit.

Our people, who embrace the chuche idea, the great anti-imperialist independent idea, as their unwavering code of faith, are masterfully smashing every step of the imperialists' antisocialist maneuvers, displaying the indomitable revolutionary spirit, under the slogan "Let us defeat the enemies even at the risk of our lives"—a slogan the fallen anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters cried.

The imperialists are bent on obliterating the people's powerful cause of anti-imperialist independence. It is an anachronistic pipe dream and it will never be able to avoid going bankrupt.

Our people are firmly convinced that when they advance under the banner of the chuche idea they will be able to wipe imperialism from the face of earth once and for all and turn the world into one governed by independence. The day when they can brilliantly realize the highest ideals of mankind will come without fail.

3. The Great Chuche Idea Flies High as an Eternal Revolutionary Banner of the Age of Independence Thanks to Our Party.

The vitality of the guiding ideology of the revolution depends on how to reflect correctly the aspirations and demands of the popular masses for independence and on how to defend, develop, and enrich it in conformity with the demands of the developing revolutionary practice.

The times and history never stop evolving, while a countless number of theoretical and practical questions arise in the revolutionary practice that must be given new answers.

Only the revolutionary ideology that can provide answers to the demands of the changing and evolving times can continue fulfilling its mission and playing its role as the revolutionary banner guiding the people's cause of independence.

The people's cause of independence advances and consummates during the struggle against all manner of counterrevolutionary forces, including imperialism, and it is to be accompanied by a serious ideological struggle. So, for the cause of independence to advance victoriously, it is imperative to firmly defend the guiding ideology of the times in the struggle against all manner of reactionary and counterrevolutionary ideologies.

This historic task designed to inherit and consummate the people's cause of independence can be brilliantly fulfilled only by the true successor to the leader [suryong] who is boundlessly loyal to the leader's cause.

Our glorious party is performing an immortal feat in endlessly enhancing the might of the chuche idea as the guiding ideology of the times by defending and safeguarding, developing and enriching the chuche idea.

Through his unending creative ideological and theoretical activities, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has not only developed the great chuche idea into a monolithic system, but is also developing and enriching it with new principles and theses without interruption.

Indescribably great, vast, and noble are the ideological and theoretical exploits of our party which has developed and deepened the chuche idea. A large number of documents published by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, including "*On the Chuche Idea*" and "*On Some Problems of Education in the Chuche Idea*," the monumental works of the times that have firmly defended and safeguarded, deepened and developed the chuche idea, are now shining as the library of the chuche idea.

The creative ideological and theoretical activities of our party, which is firmly defending and safeguarding, deepening and developing the chuche idea without interruption, are the greatest and most glorious ideological and theoretical activities that guide the age of the chuche on a victorious road.

All of our party's ideological and theoretical activities are, above all, replete from start to finish with absolute loyalty to the leader's revolutionary ideas.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, has noted: What counts most for the party of the working class in inheriting the revolutionary cause explored by the leader [suryong] is to resolutely defend, safeguard, and implement the leader's revolutionary ideas from generation to generation, without interruption.

To be loyal to the leader's revolutionary ideas is the basic demand for defending, inheriting, and developing them, as well as the basic sign of the party that inherits and consummates the leader's cause.

For our party the chuche idea is the starting point of all manner of ideological and theoretical activities and a practical struggle, as well as the one and only standard.

Our party has made all the principles and theses of the chuche idea absolute truth, has profoundly borne out its greatness and uniqueness with facts, and has put in motion the strategic and tactical policies arising in the revolutionary practice thoroughly on the basis of the chuche idea and is now resolutely defending the purity of the chuche idea.

Our party has not only explained the historical position of Comrade Kim Il-song's great revolutionary ideas and its significance in terms of the global history, it has also developed them into a monolithic system of chuche ideas, theories, and methods. This is an immortal ideological and theoretical feat that our party has performed in the development of the revolutionary ideology of the working class.

It is thanks to our party that the position of the chuche idea, its uniqueness and its inexhaustible might, the essence of Comrade Kim Il-song's great revolutionary ideas, have all been explained; and that theories arising in socialist and communist construction, such theories that the leader had earlier explained based on the chuche idea as party building, state building, economic construction, and cultural construction have been fully deepened and developed.

In terms of width and depth of inheriting and developing the leader's revolutionary idea and in terms of principle and resoluteness with which to defend and safeguard it, our party's ideological and theoretical activities have set a brilliant example that no other party can follow.

Our party's ideological and theoretical activities also are closely associated with the enormous practical struggle to make great changes by victoriously guiding the revolution and construction.

Ideology and theories are made to come into being according to the demands of the revolutionary practices. Their goals lie in meeting the demands of the revolutionary practices. Only when the ideological and theoretical activities are conducted according to the demand of revolutionary practices can they sensitively grasp the demands of the developing times and the popular masses' aspirations for independence that are rising without interruption in a timely manner and correctly present new ideas, theories, strategy, and tactics for their realization.

Our party always grasps the pressing issues related to longstanding theories amid the revolutionary practices, presents new ideas and theories by generalizing the practical experiences without interruption, tests their justness through revolutionary practices, and then develops and enriches them through revolutionary practices even further.

It is a brilliant fruition of the ideological and theoretical activities conducted by our party on the basis of revolutionary practices that the chuche idea has been declared a man-centered outlook on the world after having been developed into a monolithic system, that the socialist and communist revolutionary theories have been explained in full based on the theories concerning the cause of imbuing society with the chuche idea, and that the chuche-oriented leadership method has been deepened and developed.

It is thanks to the ideological and theoretical intelligence of our party which always sees through the demands of the times and the developing revolution and provides them with appropriate theoretical and practical answers that the chuche idea has been able to demonstrate its pull and vitality as the powerful guiding ideology of the times even higher.

All of our party's ideological and theoretical activities are replete, from start to finish, with warm love for the people and boundless devotion to the cause of independence.

The ideological and theoretical activities of the party of the working class aimed at creating and embodying the ideas, theories, strategy, and tactics should be conducted constantly with a view toward defending, safeguarding,

and realizing the popular masses' demands and interests. Our party conducts its ideological and theoretical activities precisely to realize such goals so as to make all the principles and theses of the chuche idea serve the popular masses in raising their independent position and role and in brilliantly exploring their destinies.

The unique world view, which gives overall answers to the problem of man's destiny with men at the center of philosophical examination, not at the center of objective, material conditions, has been monolithically systematized. The revolutionary theory has been developed and enriched, giving first consideration to the popular masses, the most precious being in the world. This is closely related to the fact that our party has waged its ideological and theoretical activities on the basis of its love for the people and its spirit of serving them. The ideological and theoretical activities of our party—which, under the slogan, "We service the people," mingles with the people to share joys and sorrows and which leads the revolution to victory and maps out and materializes all lines and policies, relying on the strength of the popular masses—is precisely a model of its devoted services for the people.

Such ideological and ideological activities of our party have made the popular masses become the dignified master of the world and their destiny and thus have made the people's support for and confindence in the chuche idea firmer. The chuche idea has planted its roots deep not only in party and state activities, but also in the people's routine life.

That the theory of the main force of the revolution has been fully expounded for the first time in history and that the chuche idea, as well, has been systematized as the mighty weapon of defending and realizing independence of the country and the nation proceeds from the ideological and theoretical activities of our party, which puts the popular masses at the center of all theories.

All ideologies, theories, strategies, and tactics expounded by our party are an encyclopedic, mighty weapon which can solve any complicated and difficult problems arising in the revolution in the era of independence. Thanks to our party's ideological and theoretical activities, which are based on loyalty to the revolutionary cause of the leader, the chuche idea will be firmly defended as the guiding ideology of the times and be glorified as such forever.

The people's greatest happiness is the happiness of living and carrying out the revolution, holding the great leader in high esteem. The nation's greatest pride is precisely the pride of living in the fatherland where the great guiding ideology of the times has been founded. Living and carrying out the revolution with the chuche idea, the immortal banner of the era of independence, holding high at the head of the revolution the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the genius of the revolution and the excellent ideologist and theoretist, whom the revolutionary people of the world boundlessly respect and absolutely trust, is oru people's greatest honor and joy.

These honors and this happiness is becoming greater and more eternal, for our people are blessed with the tested leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is brilliantly inheriting and consummating the chuche revolutionary cause. It is the firm faith and will of our WPK members and our people to brilliantly perform the heavy mission and duty for the times and history by firmly uniting around the party Central Committee headed by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and by resolutely defending and holding aloft the banner of the chuche idea.

It is the irresistible rule of history that our times—which have come to us anew in the development of the history—advance along the eternal road of independence as the popular masses desire. There is no force in the world to block the path of the people who vigorously struggle to build a prosperous new era of independence, believing in the great chuche idea and advancing along its banner.

South Korea

Envoy to U.S. Interviewed on Bush's Visit

SK1501110292 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 14 Jan 92 p 11

[Interview with Hyon Hong-chu, ROK ambassador to the United States, by CHOSON ILBO editor Yi Yong-tok; place and date not given]

[Text] [Editor's note] How are ROK-U.S. relations? U.S. President Bush, who visited Korea 5 January and left on 7 January, during his meeting with President No Tae-u stressed the need to uplift ROK-U.S. relations to "relations of partners" not only in the diplomatic and security areas but also in trade. Are relations between the two countries developing maturely without producing any cacophonous sounds as agreed upon between the two countries' leaders? What is more, 13 U.S. businessmen accompanied U.S. President Bush in his visit to Korea, setting off panic that the United States may try to intensify its trade-related pressure on Korea. President Bush's visit to Korea was even seen as an effort by a state leader to put pressure on Korea to make it open its markets. CHOSON ILBO political desk editor Yi Yong-tok met with Hyon Hong-chu, ambassador to the United States, who came in connection with President Bush's visit to the ROK.

[Yi Yong-tok] In the latter half of the 1980's, Korea and the United States witnessed their bilateral relations go sour and remain that way for a considerable period of time over such issues as democratization in Korea and the Pak Tong-son scandal. Throughout the Fifth Republic and up until now, since the beginning of the Sixth Republic, relations between our two countries seem to have gone through no great twists and turns, at

least outwardly. Nevertheless, the fact that Presidents No and Bush have held six rounds of summit talks is an indication that there have been many subjects for the two countries to discuss. It is about time to review them. How do you, as the man in charge of our country's relations with the United States, define the present state of Korean-U.S. relations?

[Hyon Hong-chu] Let me assure you that Korean-U.S. relations at present are at their best in all aspects. What works as a decisive factor in developing the bilateral relations is that democratization is under way in Korea, as you just mentioned. Korean-U.S. relations are such that they can be classified into two categories: Korean-U.S. relations before and after the democratization was put in motion in Korea. Another factor that has worked to change the status of Korean-U.S. relations is the northern policy our country has pursued since the beginning of the Sixth Republic. Unlike in the past, when the United States coaxed our country to make changes, the situation has changed to the point where our country takes the initiative in enforcing its diplomatic policy and the United States supports it.

With the new methods of handling such political issues, trade issues have arisen as the most pressing pending issues in relations between Korea and the United States. It is no exaggeration to say that trade has replaced security as the central issue in our two countries' bilateral relations.

[Yi] During his visit to Korea and in a speech delivered at the National Assembly, U.S. President Bush put particular stress on trade issues, and on the need for Korea to open up its market in particular. Given the fact that he could speak from his heart more freely in a speech delivered at the National Assembly than in talks with his Korean counterpart, we find it necessary to pay keener attention to that speech.

The government assessed that relations between Korea and the United States have advanced to relations of partners, even in trade, in the wake of President Bush's visit to Korea. In addition to the original meaning of partners, that they are mutual beneficiaries, the word can also means competitors. What are the prospects for the future development of the two countries' bilateral relations? What is your opinion about the pressure on Korea to open its rice market?

[Hyon] Since the United States seems to believe firmly that multilateral pressure alone will be enough to hammer out a settlement of the Uruguay Round negotiations and, in particular, to make Korean open its rice market, the United States, it seems, did not find it necessary to directly engage itself in the discussion of rice-related issues with Korea during President Bush's recent visit.

Your remark on partners is well appreciated, that partners strongly connote duty shared by persons involved in a running business, while it can also signify companions on a journey. The U.S. side's reference to relations of partners between Korea and the United States strongly denote the former, whereas we tend to perceive the relations of partners to be rather the case of the latter.

Nonetheless, given the cold international order now in place, the partners have no choice but to share responsibility. For your information, I must say that "rice" was never mentioned, not even once, during the latest round of ROK-U.S. summit talks. The United States seemed to have calculated that it will gain nothing from discussing the rice issue.

[Yi] The United States did not bring up the rice issue at all. This means that it assumed a gentler attitude than expected. Still, we cannot delay its resolution indefinitely, can we? Whether the Uruguay Round will be successful will be determined in late February. How are the ROK and the United States planning to deal with this issue?

[Hyon] The ROK Government judges that it will benefit from the Uruguay Round in the finance, commodities, and service sectors, even though it will face some difficulties in rice and other agricultural products. The Uruguay Round, which pursues a free competitive system, is more favorable to us than the emergence of regional economic blocs. Still, our government will stress to the end that rice must be an exception. Noteworthy is the fact that some Americans are opposed to opening their agricultural markets. Applying a clause on exceptions to the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade [GATT], the United States has protected its sugar, cigarette, and dairy markets. The settlement of the Uruguay Round negotiations will keep the United States from doing the same thing in the future. My frank feeling is that the time is coming for the ROK to make a decision, just like the United States made a political decision under these difficulties circumstances.

[Yi] Many U.S. businessmen accompanied President Bush when he visited the ROK. What did they do in the ROK?

[Hyon] Japan is a major target of U.S. trade pressure. The U.S. businessmen appeared to hope to find ways for the ROK and the United States to jointly enter the Japanese markets. Trade disputes between the United States and the ROK were at their height in 1988 and 1989, when the ROK ran up big surpluses in its trade with the United States. Causes of disputes have been removed to a great extent for the past one or two years.

[Yi] Some foreign media have reported that the ROK and the United States and the top leaders of the two countries, in particular, have significant differences in views on the fact that North-South relations are changing rapidly and on their assessment of North Korea's recent changes.

[Hyon] In a word, such reports are false. The two countries are discussing all the issues, and from seeing those discussions, those foreign media have reported so. The United States was doubtful at first. Upon hearing

our explanations, however, the United States has come to understand our position. It is natural that if the two countries have differing views, they coordinate them. Therefore, it is regrettable that such differences in views are considered disputes.

[Yi] The United States complained that not much attention was given to the nuclear issue when the North and South adopted a basic agreement on their relations. The two countries still differ on that, do they not?

[Hyon] The United States complained that a clause on international nuclear inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency was deleted from the joint denuclearization declaration and that simultaneous inspection and verification were vaguely mentioned. Meanwhile, the denuclearization declaration stipulates that they will be conducted in ways that the North and South will agree on. The United States has expressed its understanding that the ROK knows North Korea best, however, and that because we have an understanding of the North, we have come to firmly believe that this issue will be resolved. If North Korea does not show sincerity in resolving this issue, however, we will not be able to ask the United States to understand our position any more, and this means that the United States will take the initiative in resolving this issue.

[Yi] The United States may think that due to our imminent political schedule, we have overestimated North Korea's mere tactical changes and made hasty decisions.

[Hyon] I think you are referring to the North-South summit talks. Our government's position on this matter is firm. If North Korea presses demands that we cannot accept, no summit talks will take place.

[Yi] It is expected that changes will be made on the presence of U.S. troops in the ROK and in the ROK-U.S. middle- and long-range security structure. How did the two countries agree on this issue during the summit talks?

[Hyon] U.S. troops are stationed in the ROK according to the judgment of the ROK Government. The United States accepts the ROK Government's demand for such presence to restrain neoisolationism, which is emerging at home in the aftermath of the Soviet Union's demise. The United States stations its troops in the ROK also to prevent Japan, China, and other countries in our vicinity from becoming military powers. Still, the presence of the U.S. troops in the ROK will be handled depending on the changes in the security situation on the Korean peninsula.

[Yi] A communique released after the ROK-U.S. summit talks mentions that political issues were discussed, as well. Was there a discussion on the upcoming presidential election?

[Hyon] The two leaders discussed how to foster democracy in the ROK. The United States is not in a position to any political faction.

[Yi] How is the Korean community doing in the United States?

[Hyon] The Korean residents there moved to the United States to find freedom and opportunities. Today's era is one in which the ideology is on the ebb. Because Korean residents know this very well and because they are busy making a living, no conflicts between pro-South and pro-North residents will take place, unlike in Japan. It is expected that the conflicts between Koreans and blacks will continue for a long time. Many blacks are discontent with the way Koreans accumulate wealth. By its nature, the problem will not be solved easily. Korean-Americans tend not to exercise their influence on American politics, because they think it is bothersome to fulfill their duties after registering themselves. It is necessary for the Korean community to positively participate in American politics considering its size.

[Yi] Many people say that during his visit to the ROK, President Bush supported North-South summit talks on the one hand and wanted to gain the market opening on the other. Do you have any plan to assist Korean companies that will enter the American markets?

[Hyon] That assessment is true, in some sense. Generally speaking, the two countries benefitted from the summit talks. Just like American companies do in the ROK, ROK companies must make steady efforts to further promote business opportunities in the United States. The government and the National Assembly will assist toward that end.

Premier Proposes Inter-Korean Talks in Panmunjom

SK1501091792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0906 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik sent a telephone message to his northern counterpart, Yon Hyong-muk, Wednesday calling for a working-level contact at the truce village of Panmunjom on Jan. 23.

The establishment and operational plans of inter-Korean political, military and exchange-cooperation subcommittees and a Panmunjom liaison office will be discussed at the meeting, according to the message.

Yim Tong-won, vice unification minister, Yi Tong-pok, special adviser to the prime minister, and four others will take part in the Panmunjom contact on the southern side.

Businessmen Cite Daewoo Role in Talks With North

SK1501014792 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Jan 92 p 6

[Text] Most of Korea's general trading companies [GTC] have reacted negatively to recent media reports that the government had designated Daewoo Business Group as the sole negotiator for promoting economic cooperation and trade with North Korea.

According to the unconfirmed reports, the government has given Kim U-chung, chairman of Daewoo, virtual power to coordinate and deal with investments and trade with the North in an attempt to prevent excessive competition to advance into the North.

Regarding the reports, Daewoo has not expressed any discontent over the matter, but other trading companies reacted negatively, saying that such a step, if true, could be interpreted as a special government favor in violation of the basic economic rule guaranteeing free and fair competition.

In the past, when businesses staged cut-throat competition on the African and Latin American markets, the government designated a few companies as a core group to advance into those markets.

"But this case is different as North Korea is not a foreign country. Bilateral trade between Seoul and Pyongyang has been regarded as inter-Korean trade without tariffs," a senior GTC official said.

"It is also against the present Fair Trade Act, which guarantees free and fair competition among companies and prevents the concentration of economic power in a few monopolistic enterprises," he stressed.

On the other hand, Daewoo officials said at the initial stages of inter-Korean trade such a move is essential to minimize possible investment risks and other adverse effects which could result stiff competition among local firms.

Korean Delegate to Uruguay Round Comments

Gives 13 Jan Speech

SK1501014692 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 Jan 92 p 8

[Text] Chief Korean delegate to the Uruguary Round [UR] talks Monday called for updating the base period applied in calculating domestic subsidies and considering market opening for less developed countries including Korea.

Pak Su-kil, Korean ambassador to Geneva, said that taking 1986-89 as the base period would in fact impose greater burden on the less developed countries than the developed ones.

He rejected the comprehensive tariffication on all farm trade underlined in a draft submitted by GATT director general Arthur Dunkel on Dec. 20.

"My government continues to have serious difficulties with regard to the idea of comprehensive tariffication because it tends to ignore the specific characteristics of agriculture in the individual food importing countries," Pak said in his speech on his government's position toward the draft.

For this reason, Pak said it is "our considered view that a carefully defined exception from tariffication for the basic foodstuffs vital for food security should be established."

He also said, "We also have serious difficulties in permitting the minimum access to all products across the board."

Pak is one of the representatives of 39 countries who delivered speeches on their respective government's position on the draft at the one-day Trade Negotiation Committee meeting.

Pak, however, emphasized the crucial importance of bringing the Uruguay Round negotiations to a successful conclusion as early as possible.

He said his government appreciates the final draft being submitted as the wrap-up of the results of five years of the UR negotiations.

Japan, Mexico, Canada, Switzerland, Israel and Nordic countries also opposed the comprehensive tariffication in farm trade.

Interviewed on Negotiations

SK1501095692 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Interview via satellite with ROK Ambassador to Geneva Pak Su-kil by KBS-1 Television anchorman Pak Tae-sok on 13 January—live]

[Text] [Pak Tae-sok] Negotiation of the Uruguay Round resumes at the General Agreement on Trade and Tariff Headquarters in Geneva [GATT] on 13 January. Many countries including the European Community [EC] are likely to urge GATT Director General Arthur Dunkel to revise the draft he submitted at the end of 1991. I will ask Ambassador Pak about details of the Uruguay Round.

Hello, ambassador. Many say that today's negotiation of Dunkel's proposal will be stalled again. What is the prospect?

[Pak Su-kil] Before I comment on the prospect, let me brief you on the results of the ambassador-level meetings on 9 January and the meetings of the developing countries on 10 January. What is noteworthy in these two meetings is that no country was entirely opposed to Dunkel's draft. Nevertheless, many counties were not

quite satisfied with some of it. In view of the atmosphere that dominated the previous meetings, we assume that discontentment will be loudly heard in today's meeting. No country will, at large, reject Dunkel's proposal, however.

[Pak Tae-sok] What is the hottest issue in today's meeting?

[Pak Su-kil] My view is based on a precondition that the United States and the European Community agree on the agricultural products. The most important issue in the overall negotiation package is about the agricultural products between the United States and the EC. In particular, the EC's farm subsidies, for which the United States is demanding deep cuts, are turning into a bottleneck. If the United States and the EC agree to scale back the subsidies, I can safely say that the prospect of the meeting is very bright. If both sides fail to agree, however, the prospect will be very gloomy. Thus, agricultural products are most significant.

[Pak Tae-sok] What is our government's position on this negotiation?

[Pak Su-kil] The Uruguay Round aims to liberalize trade in seven areas ranging from services to agricultural products, textiles, etc. As a result of our best efforts in all fields of negotiation so far, we think that we have made decent successes. For example, a substantial gain was made in that dumping and imposition of subsidy duties and countervailing duties shall be subject to stringent procedures.

We have not seen satisfactory progress in the field of the agricultural products, however, in which all of the people are keenly interested, particularly the imposition of duties without exception. Through joint efforts with countries that have a stake in this, we will do our best until the end of the negotiation to attain our objective.

[Pak Tae-sok] Would you please tell us the negotiation schedule.

[Pak Su-kil] I understand that if all negotiations are completed by end of March as expected and if the United States and the EC reach agreement on the agricultural products, the GATT secretariat plans the commerce and trade minister-level meeting to convene around mid-April to decide if the entire negotiation proposal is adopted.

[Pak Tae-sok] Thank you for your explanation.

Government Prepares To Curb Election Disturbances

No Tae-u Urges Crackdown

SK1501061192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0525 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u, branding illegal electioneering an "anti-democratic, public enemy," directed the government Wednesday to ruthlessly crack down on such acts.

"Candidates, campaigners and voters should all be made to realize that election law violators can never be elected," No told a meeting of a group of key cabinet ministers at Chongwadae [presidential offices] after receiving reports from them on how to hold clean elections this year.

"To protect democracy and the people's livelihood, the government should sternly deal with violations of the law that capitalize on the elections, and demonstrations and violent radical activities stemming from selfish regionalism," he said, calling 1992 "a year establishing democratic order."

No said the Prime Minister's Office, the Board of Audit and Inspection and other agencies related to discipline in officialdom should see to it that state policy objectives were pursued from the highest to the lowest administrative units.

The chief executive called on his ministers to perform their duties with a firm sense of responsibility as the future of the nation and the honor of the government relied on this year.

"We should rejuvenate the economy, markedly stabilize the people's livelihood, conduct the elections in a fair manner to enhance our political culture, and consolidate the basis for national reunification by making big progress in inter-Korean relations," he said.

Ministries Set Up Task Force

SK1501035892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0303 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—The government will set up an inter-ministerial inspection task force under the prime minister to prevent possible wrongdoings, laxity of discipline and disorder in officialdom and society in general during the election season and will form 231 police squads across the nation to root out illegal electioneering.

Public servants will be asked to refrain from patronizing bars and entertainment establishments as part of a government effort to eradicate luxury and profligate consumption and the government will extend restrictions on the issuance of licenses for such businesses by a year. Companies believed to promote luxury will have their tax returns investigated.

These steps were contained in reports submitted to President No Tae-u on Wednesday morning in the presence of Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, Kim Yong-chun, chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection, Justice Minister Kim Ki-chun, Home Minister Yi Sang-yon and a few other ministers.

Korean voters will go to the polls twice this year, to elect National Assembly members in March and later to

choose a president. Local elections planned for mayors and provincial governors were postponed by No last week, triggering heated protests from the opposition parties and some civic groups.

According to the reports, the government will continue the special inspection team at the prosecutor-general's office that focuses on wrongdoings by officials and leading social figures, and will act against real estate speculation and smuggling.

Sim Tae-pyong, the prime minister's chief assistant for administrative coordination, told the meeting that the government would continue cracking down on various forms of illegal and disorderly acts such as damage to "green-belt" areas and opening of entertainment establishments outside licensing hours.

The government would positively support campaigns by citizens and social organizations to generate a spirit of fairness for the elections, Sim said.

Home Minister Yi said his Ministry would achieve fair elections at all costs and prohibit officials from campaigning.

To deal with a rise in crimes against women and children, the government will form special organized crime squads, establish a nationwide system to locate suspects and buy modern equipment for scientific investigation such as automatic fingerprint readers, he said.

The justice minister reported that violators of election laws would be punished regardless of their political beliefs or status, and their punishment would be made public whenever it was needed.

To effectively cope with new types of crime and social changes, he said, his Ministry would promote revision of the criminal law and the law on criminal procedures.

Inmates will be given greater chances to work outside their prisons and, upon completion of their sentences, will be given jobs so that they can resettle into society better.

Under ministerial consideration the system of overseeing and educating juvenile delinquents to adult criminals was expanding, he added.

Government Administration Minister Yi Sang-pae said his Ministry would do its best to cut red tape in administrative procedures. Reporting would be simplified, administration computerized and administrative restrictions greatly eased, he said.

Information Minister Choe Chang-yun said his Ministry would actively support private efforts to stop unethical pleasure.

It would build a network of citizens' groups and private and state-run firms to accurately grasp public opinion and reflect it in government policies, Choe said.

Kim Yong-sam Warns About Disrupting DLP Unity

SK1501080992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0439 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Kim Yong-sam, no. 2 man in the ruling party after President No Tae-u, said Wednesday he would take command of the general elections to ensure a majority of seats for the ruling party as this would stabilize politics.

The executive chairman of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] told a new year news conference his party would pick a late-March election date in consultation with the government.

"The DLP will nominate fresh figures for election, based on morals and ability, regardless of factional distribution, to show that it has been reformed," Kim said.

"Elections will be won under my command with the cooperation of Co-chairmen Kim Chong-pil and Pak Tae-chun," he said.

Describing unity and harmony in the party as the key to victory, he warned that anyone violating the strict hierarchical order would be severly disciplined.

The DLP would spearhead a drive to create a fair election mood, Kim said. He said he would carry out politics designed to bring the nation together by diluting conflicts and confrontation in society.

Kim, a self-claimed lifetime presidential hopeful, said there was a strong confidence binding No and him and he found nothing peculiar about No's emotional support of him.

He said a DLP national convention would be held in May to nominate a presidential candidate and he saw a free contest was desirable and he was ready for it and sure to win it.

He said revitalizing the lackluster economy would no way take a back seat because of the elections this year.

"I am conviced that the nation could cope with a current economic crisis if workers, management and the government joined forces in tightening their belts once again," he said.

Kim backed up No's decision to postpone elections for mayors and provincial governors in the first half of 1992, by calling it a courageous decision to show the president was doing his best for the people and history by putting vitality into the economy.

Kim said he believed a majority of people would support the president's decision.

His party would present No's decision as a campaign pledge during the campaign for general elections and postpone elections for mayors and provincial governors if the party earned a majority of seats.

Asked whether he received political funds, he admitted that his friends had given him money when he was working as an opposition leader but said that it was spent on democratization of the country.

The government will further develop inter-Korean relations this year to pave the way for reunification of the country and the next administration is certain to undertake a historic mandate to further nurture democracy in Korea, he said.

Hyundai Suspends Production, May Face Bankruptcy

SK1201013792 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Jan 92 p 8

[Text] Hyundai Motor, Korea's largest automaker, was forced to suspend its production entirely because of severe labor-management disturbances over the payment of extra bonuses, causing hitches in the operations of 1,450 auto parts makers.

Many business experts are apprehensive that the chronic labor-management disputes would seriously affect other enterprises.

Some even predicted that a substantial number of other business concerns would be embroiled in serious labor-management disputes this year in the face of political unrest.

In the meantime, the government is deeply perplexed by the ever-growing adverse impact of the labor-management conflict at Hyundai Motor on the nation's economy.

Government officials fear that the Hyundai turmoil would shatter the ongoing drive by all industries to work more in order to enhance their international competitiveness and invigorate the staggering economy.

Business circles and government agree that the Hyundai crisis will deal a severe blow to the nation's exports this year unless it is peacefully settled soon.

They are already pessimistic that it will be impossible to achieve the $81 billion export goal for this year because of the suspension of production by Hyundai Motor.

Hyundai Motor is unable to manufacture and export passenger cars due to festering labor-management disturbances, the most severe in recent years.

Because of its quandary, a large number of its 1,450 subcontractors have suspended their operations and are expected to go bankrupt.

Hyundai has been embroiled in a dispute since Dec. 17 last year over the size of additional bonuses.

Its trade union is calling upon management to pay 150 percent special bonuses versus the 50 percent bonuses suggested by the latter.

Hyundai Motor has five factories in Ulsan, Kyongsangnamdo.

Of them, the first, second and third factories are manufacturing passenger cars, while the fourth and fifth factories are producing buses, trucks, commercial vehicles and specially-equipped cars.

Specifically, Excels and Stellars are manufactured at the first factory, Sonatas, Scoupes and Grandeurs at the second factory, Elantras at the third factory, Graces and buses at the fourth factory and trucks at the fifth factory.

The first factory manufactures 1,300 units per day, the second 850 units and the third 850 units, bringing the daily production of passenger cars by Hyundai to 3,000.

Because of the labor-management dispute, the operation of the first factory has been halted since Dec. 28 and that of the second factory since Jan. 6.

Among the three passenger car factories, Hyundai has been running only the third factory at 30 percent of its operating capacity.

But the third factory has been unable to turn out Elantras since Jan. 9 because operations of the design line at Hyundai came to a standstill.

Hyundai said that the operating ratio of the fourth and fifth factories stands at 20-30 percent.

The company disclosed that it failed to export 20,000 passenger cars in December due to the labor-management conflict.

It predicted that export losses would amount to 25,000 units in January if the crisis is not settled this month.

Hyundai has received orders of 45,000 passenger cars from foreign buyers and is obliged to deliver them by the end of next month.

Hyundai failed to ship 1,000 Excels and 1,600 Sonatas to Iran in January.

Hyundai is also considering canceling shipments of 1,100 passenger cars to Peru.

Hyundai Union Launches Strike After Dispute Factories Shut Down

SK1501091592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0834 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Ulsan, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Hyundai Motor Co. shut down five factories for an indefinite period from 5 p.m., Wednesday hours after some 30,000 union workers began a go-slow strike.

An announcement, which was posted in the factory compound, said that during the go-slow, the company will not pay wages to workers, control entrances of workers into factories at 14 gates, suspend 22 company

bus services for the workers, close 17 cafeterias and shut down water and power supplies to the five factories.

Claiming that the go-slow is paralyzing the company and halting production, the company said it was forced to take these actions after its efforts to reach an agreement with the labor union through negotiations proved fruitless.

Earlier, union officials said they would go on strike if their demands are not met. They were demanding, among other things, that the company drop a suit it filed against union leaders and pay wages while they are on strike.

In the notice, the company charged that the union has been inciting labor unrest and causing slowdowns in production since it has elected the current leadership. There have been delays and other troubles in the production of some 57,000 units of automobiles and losses amounting to 700 billion won, the company said.

It said the company's reliability and sales in overseas market are being hurt by the job action.

Meanwhile, the union which claims the membership of 34,000 workers issued a statement demanding the revocation of its decision. The union said it will urge workers to go to work despite the closure, heightening the possibility of violent clashes between striking workers and law enforcement officials.

Government To React With Force

SK1501071392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0600 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—The Prosecutor General's Office [PGO] decided Wednesday to quell the go-slow at Hyundai Motor Co. in Ulsan with force and arrest union leader Yi Hon-ku and six other Hyundai union officials for agitation.

A ranking PGO official said the union's report of a labor dispute was illegal because their were no prior negotiations with management.

"Workers also broke the law by collectively refusing to work overtime since September," he said.

* Auto Industry To Introduce New Models in 1993

922C0043A Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 16 Oct 91 p 7

[Text] The automobile industry has stepped up its efforts to develop new car models.

In the past, they have missed the period when new models are normally introduced to the public and this has resulted in a steep reduction in the number of automobiles exported to the United States. The auto industry is trying to develop unique designs that will allow them to introduce four to five new models per year. Automakers believe that the period between model changes will be shortened in the future, and are busy developing successors to models recently introduced. They plan to introduce at least 10 original styles in 1993.

Hyundai has produced the greatest variety of models, including the export model Allantra, and have developed the first domestically made turbocharged engine for the Scoupe. Hyundai believes that the Excel line has outlived its usefulness and plans to replace it with the X3, and the Sonata will be succeeded by the Y3. The Y3 will feature computer-controlled anti-lock brakes and an air bag.

The automaker Kia started focusing on developing its own passenger car models in 1988. They plan to introduce three new models on the 15th of this month. Previously, Kia produced copies of outdated Japanese car models, but now they plan the development of their own models to establish an independent sales strategy in foreign markets and to establish the image of a contemporary passenger car design manufacturer on par with other advanced countries.

Kia invested 5,300 billion won in the development of two Sophia models: a 1,500cc sedan and a 2,000cc sporty convertible. According to Kia, the cars have a refined appearance and maximize safety and economy through all types of advanced equipment. Kia invested 4,400 billion won to develop the Sportage model, which combines the features of a Jeep and a sedan: it has a comfortable ride and looks like a sedan but its mobility is like a Jeep, and therefore it is expected to generate a new demand.

Kia plans to unveil three new models at an auto show that will be held in Tokyo from 23 October to 8 November, and will begin mass producing the Sophia in June 1992 and the Sportage in 1993.

Kia has also been working on the Model M, a light car with an 800cc engine displacement, and the Model T, a large vehicle with a 2,400-3,000cc engine displacement. Both will be shown sometime next year.

Daewoo was not active in producing new model cars until last year when they began working on the Espero. Since then, they have continued with the Model V project, a successor to their Royal series. This year they will unveil two new models, the Prince and the Super Salon, and await consumers' reactions.

Daewoo, which had a great deal of trouble producing and exporting its GM model, is developing its own Model T-94 to replace the Le Mans. The company plans to use this and the Espero as its main export models.

Next year, Daewoo Chosun will introduce new light-van and light-truck models, Ssangyong Motor Company will reveal a new model of Jeep, and the Asia Motors Company will begin developing light-conventional automobiles.

In addition, domestic automobile manufacturers developing more than 10 car models for the future. If things go as planned, they expect to release four to five new models each year after that.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

U.S., EC Participation in EAEC Talks Viewed

BK1501035292 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0328 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 15 (OANA/BERNAMA)—The United States, the European Community and other countries will be invited to take part in East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC), proposed by Malaysia.

Malaysian International Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz said Wednesday that EAEC would initiate discussions on East Asian economic issues. But it does not mean those outside the region cannot be invited to join the discussion, she told reporters here. They do not need to be a member of EAEC and we are not out to exclude any part of the world.

She was replying to comments by Japanese Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Koji Kakizawa who said that by excluding U.S., the EAEC would pose a problem for Asian nations. Rafidah said there was no membership status in EAEC.

Countries in the East Asian region will just come together to participate in talks that will be called from time to time on issues faced in these countries, she added.

Taiwan Government Shelves Joint Steel Project

BK1501051092 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0413 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 15 (OANA/BERNAMA)—The Taiwanese Government's multi-billion ringgit steel project, in a joint venture with Malaysians, through its state-owned China Steel Corporations, is to be put on hold for the time being.

Lion Group Executive Director Tan Onn Poh said Wednesday, the Taiwanese Government was to have made a decision on this project in its legislative assembly last week. However, China Steel spoke to us Tuesday, and they told us that the decision had been postponed, he said.

According to a report from Taipei, the Taiwanese Parliament had decided to shelve plans for the U.S.$3.2 billion steel project.

The report quoted a legislator in the ruling Nationalist Party Lin Yu-siang as saying: We will not approve the investment project until after Malaysia agrees to sign an investment guarantee pact with us.

Asked to comment on the Taiwanese seeking an investment guarantee, Tan said that he had not heard of such a demand. What I can understand from this is that the government just wants to study further on the project, he added.

Taiwanese parties had been reported to take up a 49-percent stake in the project, with China Steel alone having to fork out funds to hold a 40-percent stake.

Ethnic Chinese 'Unhappy' With Islamic Government

BK1401103192 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 13 Jan 92 p 7

[By Alex Choong]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sun.—The Chinese in Kelantan are unhappy with the PAS [Pan Malaysian Islamic Party] - led State Government as they feel that they have not been treated fairly, Youth and Sports Minister Senator Annuar Musa said today.

He said a lot of promises made by PAS before the party came into power after the October 1990 general election had not been fulfilled.

Senator Annuar, who is also State UMNO [United Malays National Organization] deputy liaison chief, said the Chinese in Kelantan had been misled by PAS.

"The promises by PAS to the Chinese community that they would do something better than the Barisan Nasional [National Front] have not been kept.

"I think members of the Chinese community there who had supported the opposition are realising their folly," he told reporters after attending a Lawn Tennis of Malaysia council meeting.

The promises of appointing non-Malay representatives in the State Assembly and various State committees had not materialised, he said, adding that PAS only appointed one or two non-Malays to a small subcommittee.

He added that the Chinese community now supports the Barisan Nasional more. "This could be seen from the votes received by Barisan Nasional candidates in the recent Sungei Pinang and Limbongan by-elections."

On the implementation of Islamic values and principles by the PAS-led Government, he said: "Even PAS leaders realise now that they cannot do it in one go."

He said PAS leaders realised that they have to educate and make the people understand their policies.

"Islam does not encourage coercion and force," he added.

"We have to take into consideration the acceptability and the timing of introducting Islamic values...again no force should be used," he added.

Asked to comment on the proposed meeting between DAP [Democratic Action Party] Secretary General Lim

Kit Siang and Menteri Besar [Chief Minister] Nik Aziz Nik Mat, he felt it held no special significance as both were in the opposition.

Singapore

Editorial Hails Visit of PRC's Yang Shangkun

BK1401134792 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 14 Jan 92 p 28

[Editorial: "A timely visit"]

[Text] Chinese President Yang Shangkun's visit to Singapore and Malaysia is a valuable reiteration of South-east Asia's economic and political importance to China. In Singapore, which is China's fourth largest foreign investor with interests in nearly 500 projects worth more than US$800 million, the emphasis of the visit was appropriately economic. One direct result was the decision to begin direct air services between Singapore and Kunming, the capital of Yunnan, as part of an effort to promote tourism in the south-western Chinese province. The almost undeveloped Yunnan provides excellent potential for trade and investment, especially in tourism, an area to which Singapore's infrastructural and managerial expertise can contribute immensely. In time, Yunnan can be a springboard into the markets of Myanmar [Burma], Laos and Vietnam. The President's visit also focused attention on Pudong, an economic zone in Shanghai which is of interest to Singaporean investors. Apart from these developments, an agreement on science and technology co-operation, expected to be signed later this year, was announced, and President Yang's presence gave Singapore businessmen an excellent opportunity to bring up directly with him the problems of doing business in China. Mr Yang promised that conditions would improve.

The importance of China's economic reforms to the rest of Asia can hardly be overstated. Its domestic market, the largest in the world with more than one billion people, is combined with abundant natural resources, much of them yet to be tapped. The reforms introduced by senior leader Deng Xiaoping in the closing years of the 1970s had remarkable results. For example, both Gross National Product and national income doubled between 1978 and 1986, with an annual growth rate of around 9 per cent in both sectors. Infrastructural and bureaucratic obstacles remain, and inflation and corruption have been unfortunate side-effects of this gigantic development: The latter problems contributed to the Tiananmen protests of 1989, which led to a period of caution in the reform process.

However, that was temporary, and the larger picture remains attractive. China's foreign trade has grown dramatically: It increased by 17.5 per cent last year to US$135.7 billion, with a trade surplus of US$8.1 billion. Led by its five Special Economic Zones, China's domestic economy, particularly in the prosperous south, is integrating rapidly with the Asian economic powerhouses in Japan, Hongkong, Taiwan and South-east Asia. Continuing commitment to reform will enhance Beijing's bilateral relations in the region and contribute to the vitality of regional multilateral agencies such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum, of which China has become a full-fledged member.

Politically, President Yang's visit to Singapore and Malaysia not only showed that China had put Tiananmen behind it and was eager to raise its profile in South-east Asia but also indicated a new, welcome balance in Beijing's South-east Asia policy. Till recently, Indochinese issues occupied a disproportionate part of it. This was natural given the Cambodian problem, but it detracted from the emphasis Beijing should place on the rest of the region, especially Asean. With the Cambodia issue hopefully on the way to a resolution, now is the time for China to build on the goodwill generated by its disengagement from communist insurgencies in this part of the world. As for South-east Asia, it is necessary to acknowledge that Beijing, like Tokyo, will be a considerable player in regional security affairs in the future, not least because of the disappearance of the Soviet Union. In order for that participation to be constructive, it is best if both China and Southeat Asian nations have a clear view of each other's expectations from, and contribution to, a relationship that can only enhance, regional stability and security. President Yang's visit partly set the tone for a new, evolving relationship.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Threatens To Resign SNC Position

BK1501071592 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Message from His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk to his "beloved children" on 14 January—read by announcer Prak Vansen]

[Text] Dear children, compatriots: In the afternoon of 13 January 1992, State of Cambodia [SOC] Television showed a number of my children, who were victims of banditry in their village, calling on me, their samdech euv [prince father], to take measures aimed at putting an end to the above acts of banditry.

Concerning this problem, I, your samdech euv, have the honor of making the following clarification for my beloved and esteemed children:

First, I, your samdech euv, feel extremely saddened after seeing on SOC Television sights of villagers in a number of provinces of our country suffering from a state of insecurity and acts of thievery and banditry. From the bottom of my heart, I would like to empathize with the woes and sufferings of the victimized children. I beg these children, compatriots to accept my deepest affection and most sincere sympathy.

Second, I am dutybound to once again remind my children compatriots that I wield no governmental or administrative powers and I have no military or police forces under me. Only the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] of His Excellency [H.E.] Chairman Chea Sim and the SOC Government of H.E. Chairman Hun Sen are in possession of all kinds of powers and military and police forces, as well as civil servants at all levels, to ensure and maintain security for the compatriots against acts of thievery, banditry, terrorism, and so on. For this reason, I place my trust in the CPP and SOC Government to protect and prevent my children from all acts of thievery and terrorism and numerous dishonest persons.

Third, I have asked the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], the Khmer Rouge, to cease 100 percent all dreadful and malevolent acts against my children. However, the PDK has assured me that it has never committed any malevolent acts against them.

Fourth, when H.E. Akashi, the special representative of the UN secretary general, and the forces of the UN authority arrive in Cambodia to fulfill their tasks in pursuance of all the commitments contained in the Cambodian peace agreement signed on 23 October 1991, I, your samdech euv, will ask them to conduct an investigation directly at the sites of the incidents within the purview of defending peace and suppressing insecurity in Cambodia. I will accompany H.E. Akashi and the forces of the UN authority to aid investigations, inspections, and the performance of functions within various provinces of our country.

Fifth, I hold that although all day and all night I have been serving the motherland and all of you children, compatriots, I have achieved little success in my mission as the chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia. Consequently, I believe that my only choice is to resign soon from that position. I hope that, after I have resigned, Their Excellencies Chairmen Chea Sim, Hun Sen, and Heng Samrin will be fully capable of ensuring for Cambodia and the Cambodian people the peace, national unity, social justice, glory, full independence, territorial integrity, and genuine democracy that are most enthusiastically coveted by all of us Cambodians, men and women alike.
Issued in Phnom Penh on 14 January 1992
[Signed] His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk

Khieu Samphan Receives UNHCR Official 11 Jan

BK1501074092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan, member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia and president of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, received Mr. Sergio Vieira de Mello, special representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] in Cambodia, at the SNC headquarters in Phnom Penh on the afternoon of 11 January.

According to a correspondent of the Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia, after a briefing given by Mr. de Mello on the UNHCR's plan to repatriate Cambodian refugees, H.E. Khieu Samphan drew the former's attention to the current situation in Cambodia where peace and security have not yet been guaranteed and a neutral political environment has not yet been created since the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia has not yet come to the country. This problem will definitely create a delay and obstacles to the implementation of the plan to repatriate the Cambodian refugees.

Meets UNAMIC Head 11 Jan

BK1501025092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan, member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and president of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], received Mr. Ataul Karim, head of the UN advance mission in Cambodia [UNAMIC], at the SNC headquarters in Phnom Penh on the afternoon of 11 January.

According to a correspondent of our Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia, the meeting was conducted in atmosphere of warm cordiality. On that occasion, H.E. Khieu Samphan thanked Mr. Ataul Karim for his past efforts, while performing his duty as the permanent representive of Bangladesh at the United Nations, to assist in the cause of the Cambodian people's independence. He also saluted Mr. Ataul Karim for his stance while carrying out his task in Cambodia as the UNAMIC head.

The correspondent added that at the meeting, H.E. Khieu Samphan told Mr. Ataul Karim: The delayed dispatch of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia to the country has held up the implementation of the Paris accord on Cambodia—the SNC cannot function normally in Phnom Penh and the war on various battlefields is still going on. This is because there is not yet any verification of the withdrawal of all Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia.

Son Sen Meets UNAMIC Military Wing Head

BK1501015092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] On 10 January in the town of Pailin, His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sen, member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and commander in chief of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, held talks with Brigadier General Michel Loridon, chief military liaison officer of the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia [UNAMIC].

At the meeting, H.E. Son Sen underlined that in the past, the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] had been in harmonious cooperatation with UNAMIC and that the

PDK would strive to cooperate with the present UNAMIC and the future UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] with a view to implementing the Paris accord appropriately, correctly, and meticulously.

H.E. Son Sen recalled: In the spirit of promoting cooperation among the four Cambodian parties and UNAMIC, I sent a letter dated 28 December 1991 to H.E. Ataul Karim, UNAMIC chief, raising the following three issues:

1. UNAMIC and the four Cambodian parties should jointly participate in any future meetings;

2. UNAMIC and the representatives of the armies of the four Cambodian parties should be together at every UNAMIC station; and

3. Apart from UNAMIC's present station, I would like to propose that other UNAMIC stations be set up in Kompong Som city, and Kampot, Takeo, Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham, Preah Vihear, Kratie, and Stung Treng Provinces.

For his part, Brig. Gen. Loridon stated that the aforementioned proposal by H.E. Son Sen was good since the eight stations would facilitate coordination. He pledged to assist in installing the four Cambodian parties in the newly proposed eight stations.

On Brig. Gen. Loridon's request to inspect mine fields in the Democratic Kampuchea-controlled areas, H.E. Son Sen replied that only with UNTAC quickly building sufficient manpower and the four Cambodian parties meticulously implementing a cease-fire could those mine fields be inspected. Also, the inspection should be carried out by all parties simultaneously in all areas controlled by the PDK as well as the other parties. He pointed out that only with cooperation from the four Cambodian parties with UNTAC in jointly clearing mines in all areas could the accord be correctly, meticulously, and efficiently implemented.

The meeting was conducted with sincerity in an atmosphere of cordiality, making the UNAMIC military wing more clearly understand the stance of the PDK, which states that only through cooperation among the four Cambodian parties and the present UNAMIC or the future UNTAC with sufficient manpower can the control and supervision of the cease-fire, withdrawal of all foreign forces from Cambodia, disarming and demobilization of the four Cambodian parties' armies for at least 70 percent, and free and just elections be carried out appropriately, correctly, and meticulously.

ICRC Oversees Political Prisoner Release

BK1501055092 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0420 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 15—The Phnom Penh government will release 290 prisoners of war and conscience Wednesday to the custody of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), AFP quoted the organization's director said yesterday.

"For us it's an important breakthrough", said Jean-Jacques Fresard, whose teams have been pressing for ICRC access to Phnom Penh's prisons for decades and made their first-over inspections Tuesday.

"They were very cooperative in the prisons today", he said.

Under the Paris peace accords ending the civil war here, all of the previously warring factions must submit to ICRC criteria for monitoring the release of prisoners.

The ICRC requires that it have unrestricted and repeated access to all prisons and prisoners, and that it log their names and personal information.

On Tuesday, ICRC teams recorded the identities of prisoners checked their health and living standards and held private talks with them, Fresard said.

They registered 108 from the city's T-3 prison and 182 from a second site a half hour's drive from downtown at which the majority of detainees are prisoners of war.

With the exception of a few prisoners who are being treated in military hospitals, all 290 will be let go under ICRC care Wednesday morning, Fresard said.

The ICRC is not allowed to comment on the conditions of the prisoners or the buildings themselves.

Fresard said he was also encouraged by a meeting earlier of the SNC Secretariat, where all factions vowed to uphold a multi-party system and ensure a free press.

At the meeting, the other three factions assured their compliance with ICRC regulations, Fresard said.

The ICRC will aim to inspect prisons in every Cambodian territory by January 23—three months from the signing of the peace treaty, Fresard said.

KPNLF To Test Phnom Penh Pledge on Free Press

BK1301084992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Ieng Muli, general secretary of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] Executive Committee and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], said yesterday the KPNLF plans to test the Hun Sen government's pledge on freedom of expression by disseminating the KPNLF bulletin tomorrow or the day after.

H.E. Ieng Muli said that if one wants free elections in Cambodia, freedom of expression should be granted and the KPNLF will watch for its reaction, which will lead one to conclude whether they genuinely want a free press. H.E. Ieng Muli said the Hun Sen government has agreed on the principle of free expression in the peace agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991. Hun Sen

reaffirmed this pledge at the SNC meeting last Saturday. H.E. Ieng Muli said they plan to circulate 2,000 copies of the KPNLF bulletin on Tuesday or Wednesday, reasoning that it is time to test this pledge.

H.E. Ieng Muli said the SNC meeting on Saturday reaffirmed the clauses in the Paris agreement which guarantee basic rights, freedom of expression, and a multiparty system. H.E. Ieng Muli said officials of the Cambodian resistance and the Phnom Penh side will meet tomorrow with representatives of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council in Phnom Penh to discuss the implementation and reforms allowing free press and opposition parties.

Tomorrow's meeting will also be attended by the international red cross. Earlier this month, this organization accused the Phnom Penh regime of delaying the release of political and war prisoners as stipulated in the Cambodian peace agreement. H.E. Ieng Muli said at the Saturday meeting that the Hun Sen of the Phnom Penh side affirmed that he will not oppose the establishment of opposition parties.

Bou Thang-Led Delegation Visits Military Region

BK1401081392 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] A high-ranking party-state delegation headed by General Bou Thang [Council of Ministers Vice Chairman] on 4 January visited and distributed gifts to cadres and combatants of the 1st Military Region in the northeast. Accompanying him were Major Gen. Kham Chan, chief of the Political Department of the 1st Military Region; Maj. Gen. Tham Phay, commander of the 1st Military Region; Si Kabun-heng, first vice chairman of the People's Party Committee of Stung Treng Province, and several other leaders and cadres of the 1st Military Region.

Maj.Gen. Kham Chan underlined the violations by the party of Democratic Kampuchea following the 23 October 1991 signing of the Paris peace agreement. For instance, he said, they continued to ship ammunition into the country, shell the positions of our forces, and fire at passenger cars. He also emphasized the sacrifices of our cadres and combatants who have always been resolutely present in order to ensure safety for the local population.

Gen. Bou Thang praised the sacrifices made in flesh and blood by the comrades in arms in the just struggle of the party, state, and National Defense and Reconstruction Front.

The general went on to say that, like the people throughout the country, the delegation would like to learn from that model of heroism and would never forget that noble good service. He also talked about the developments of the historic new situation, particularly those around the implementation of the peace agreement and national reconciliation. He reiterated the immediate tasks of our Armed Forces and people, who must be united as a single body in strictly implementing the 23 October 1991 agreement.

Reportage on Actions of Vietnamese 'Aggressors'

Disguised Troops Plunder Villages

BK1501073792 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] According to a report from the village of Tang Krasang, on the night of 27 December 1991, a group of Vietnamese aggressor soldiers, wearing the uniforms of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK], plundered a family in Tang Krasang Seat, Santuk District, Kompong Thom Province.

The Vietnamese aggressors shot to death all the family's members, including the household head and his wife and children, and plundered 150 thousand riels, some 56 grams of gold, and a radio-cassette player.

The general situation throughout the country presently is that the Vietnamese aggressors are, under the guise of NADK combatants, intensifying their activities to plunder our Cambodian people in various villages and along diverse roads everywhere, and so on. Their objective is to elimate the Cambodian race through Vietnam's Indochina federation strategy and unleash accusations against, and denigrate, Democratic Kampuchea, which is a resistance force among the other two resistance groups fighting the Vietnamese aggressors, causing them to be in death throes for 13 years.

The Cambodian villagers in Tang Krasang as well as the Cambodian people all over the country have been well aware of the true evil nature of the Vietnamese aggressors. They clearly know who are Cambodian and who are Vietnamese, as well as those who are the Vietnamese invaders' instruments of aggression—the Vietnamese and Cambodian appearances are completely different.

The event confirms reports that the Vietnamese aggressors have recently twisted the reality by accusing Democratic Kampuchea of plundering the people and sending their elements to set up scenarios in which the people were fooled into rising in protest at the time when the SNC was holding its meeting in Phnom Penh. All this is aimed at interfering with and preventing the SNC chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodian head of state, from implementing the accord for ending the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia, thus allowing them a free hand to further their Indochina federation strategy.

Troops Disguised as Resistance

BK1501102592 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] A report from Kampot Province says the Vietnamese aggressors in the province are preparing to disguise the A 3 policemen and the Phnom Penh side's soldiers as the national resistance troops to denounce and violate the accord, then put the blame on the national resistance forces.

Each A 3 policeman and each soldier of the Phnom Penh side has three sets of uniforms—one of the Phnom Penh side, one of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK], and one camouflage uniform—for use in the following different concrete circumstances:

1. When monitoring forces of the United Nations and four Cambodian parties are dispatched to any specific areas, a number of the aforesaid forces of the A 3 police and Phnom Penh side wear the NADK uniform, pretend to mount attacks against themselves, then pretend to blame the PDK's [Party of Democratic Kampuchea] forces for violating the Paris accord; and

2. At other times, the A 3 policemen and Phnom Penh troops wear camouflage uniforms, pretend to launch onslaughts against themselves, then pretend to accuse the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia or the Khmer People's National Liberation Front of violating the accord.

According to Kampot Province's inhabitants, if the Vietnamese aggressors further lead the Phnom Penh side's troops to continue provocations and offensives for the purpose of formenting such constant insecurity, the people will never be able to see a ray of peace. That being the case, the provincial people call for an immediate dispatch of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] to the country so the SNC [Supreme National Council] and UNTAC can jointly verify and make sure that all Vietnamese aggressors withdraw from Cambodia. Besides, the people are determined to continue joining hands in their struggle to get the Paris accord implemented to definitely drive all the Vietnamese aggressors out of Cambodia.

'Ruining' Peace Accord Called Goal

BK1501033092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] According to a report from Kompong Cham Province, the Vietnamese aggressors in the Second Military Region are prepared to launch offensives on areas under the control of Democratic Kampuchea there.

The report clearly states that the Vietnamese aggressors' forces are permanently stationed there to command any small- or large-scale operations in the areas controlled by the national resistance, specifically in the regions under the control of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea. The report adds that the Vietnamese aggressors continue to encroach upon a cease-fire agreement with the intent of completely ruining the Paris accord to prolong the Vietnamese war of aggression in the country.

Japanese Parliamentary Delegation Pays Visit

Group Leader Tanabe Meets Hun Sen

BK1501075192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] On the evening of 14 January at the office of the Council of Ministers, His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, received a delegation of the Japanese Parliament led by Makoto Tanabe, leader of the Social Democratic Party, a major party in Japan after the ruling party, for talks on views concerning Cambodian-Japanese cooperation.

On this ocasion H.E. Hun Sen pointed out the concentrated efforts of all concerned parties to implement the Paris peace agreement on Cambodia. Concerning the implementation of this agreement, H.E. Hun Sen said the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia should be quickly dispatched to Cambodia. Along with this, H.E. Hun Sen wants Japan to heighten its major role—political and in financial assistance—in the Cambodian peace process and bilateral cooperation.

Replying, Makoto Tanabe specified that the Japanese side has always paid attention to the national reconciliation and peace process in Cambodia. He affirmed that he will convey H.E. Hun Sen's proposals to the Japanese Government for measures to be taken so that Japan has an appropriate role in implementing the peace agreement in Cambodia, building and developing Cambodia, and in bilateral economic cooperation.

Meets Sihanouk

OW1401134492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1310 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan. 14 KYODO—Makoto Tanabe, chairman of the Japan's Social Democratic Party (SDP), on Tuesday met Premier Hun Sen of the Vietnam-installed Phnom Penh government.

During the 30-minute meeting at the prime minister's office, Hun Sen asked the leader of Japan's biggest opposition party for Tokyo's personnel and material assistance for promoting peace in Cambodia, SDP officials accompanying Tanabe said.

Tanabe told Hun Sen he would call for consultations between the ruling and opposition parties over Japan's

original plan for reconstruction of war-ravaged Cambodia on his return to Japan, the officials said.

Tanabe said Japan might be able to help Cambodia in such areas as agriculture, water supply, and communications, they said.

Tanabe also met with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council, the interim body governing Cambodia until United Nations-sponsored elections can be held.

Sihanouk endorsed the participation of Japan's Self Defense Forces in the proposed U.N. Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), but said he is aware of Japan's constitutional curbs on an overseas deployment of its armed forces, the SDP officials said.

Sihanouk requested that Japan give all-out financial assistance to Cambodia to help the war-scarred nation rehabilitate its devastated infrastructure, the officials said.

Tanabe replied that he will call on the Tokyo government to give financial aid to help the financial-strapped U.N. speed up a planned deployment of UNTAC troops.

Sihanouk was quoted as saying he would like to cooperate with Yasushi Akashi, the newly-appointed UNTAC head, to help implement the truce accord reached last October in Paris among Cambodia's four warring factions.

Japanese Group Promises Aid to FUNCINPEC

BK1501072192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Reports from Phnom Penh say that a delegation from a Japanese organization recently visited the office of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC] in Phnom Penh.

The reports say that Mr. and Mrs. (Satoyo Ono), representatives of Japan's development organization visited the office of the FUNCINPEC side in Phnom Penh and held talks with His Excellency [H.E.] Eng Roland and H.E. General Chhim Seak-leng of the FUNCINPEC side in Phnom Penh.

The delegation from the Japanese development organization promised to provide a large amount of development aid to FUNCINPEC, which is led by Prince Norodom Ranariddh, general secretary and member of the Supreme National Council.

Philippine Minister Calls on Sihanouk

BK1501032792 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] On the afternoon of 12 January at the Khemarin Palace, His Excellency (Pablo Svalos), Philippines deputy foreign minister, paid a courtesy call on His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], in order to present him with a letter from the Philippine president.

In her letter to the prince, Philippines President Mrs. Corazon Aquino stressed that the Philippines Government recognizes and supports the SNC and will designate a permanent diplomatic envoy to Cambodia in the near future.

Speaking at this time, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk expressed his deep thanks on behalf of the SNC and Cambodian people and in his own name to the Philippines Government and people for supporting Cambodia's cause of peace and national reconciliation.

The prince also called on the Philippines Government to join with UNESCO and the world community in helping to restore and repair ancient temples, which are the heritage of mankind in Cambodia.

Indonesia

Alatas on Supreme National Council Performance

BK1501123892 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas believes the Cambodian National Supreme Council has begun to function, but not very smoothly, so all parties are hoping that UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] members will arrive in that country earlier than scheduled. Speaking to reporters in Jakarta today, Alatas said the presence of UNTAC, which consists of military and civilian personnel, is viewed as necessary to facilitate the implementation of the Paris agreement on Cambodia.

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas is scheduled to visit Cambodia 16-18 January at the invitation of Prince Sihanouk. His planned visit to Cambodia is made in his capacity as Indonesian foreign minister and cochairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia. France and Indonesia are both cochairmen of the said conference.

Security Chief Views Attitude Toward Dissidents

BK1401142592 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1014 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 14 (OANA—ANTARA)—Coordinating Minister for Political and Security Affairs Sudomo said here on Tuesday that dissidents should be developed in a democratic life as long as they do not commit crimes and subversive activities.

"Therefore, approaches taken towards them should be preventive and persuasive," the minister said in reply to a reporter's questions after attending a one-day seminar

on developing business and political bridge between Indonesian and Australian women.

Sudomo said dissidents were those who disagree and oppose the government's policy.

There is no problem with them as long as they do not violate the law and do not disturb national stability, he added.

"So, they are allowed to stage strikes and demonstretions as long as they do not violate the law in favour of the democratic life in Indonesia," the minister said.

A national consensus which reflects the democratic life in Indonesia has been made available, the minister said while mentioning Law Numbers 1, 3, 5 and Law Number 8/1985.

Referring to a number of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) which are considered dissidents and often receive foreign aid, the coordinating minister said Law No. 8/85 on social organizations regulated matters concerning NGOs.

But many NGOs do not register at the Ministry of Home Affairs so that they are free to receive aid from abroad, Sudomo said adding that that case was not allowed without the knowledge of the government.

The government cannot take preventive measures against such an NGO and does not recognize its existance, the minister said.

Sudomo disclosed three categories for which an NGO was considered dissident, consisting of activities disturbing national stability, receiving foreign aid without the knowledge of the government and providing assistance for foreigners.

Necessary actions by the government against such an NGO are preventive and persuasive approaches, said Sudomo further.

On the occasion, the coordinating minister also responded to reporters' questions on alledged maltreatment against PDI's (the Indonesian Democratic Party) cadres in Bali.

Sudomo said if the actions were crimes [word indistinct], firm actions should be taken against those responsible for the incident.

He reminded however that an action of a person did not constitute the action of a party to which the person concerned belonged.

PDI Chairman Suryadi disclosed the incident when inaugurating the 19th anniversary of the party here recently.

Papua New Guinea's Namaliu Continues Visit

Bilateral Cooperation Increasing

BK1301063092 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] Papua New Guinea [PNG]'s Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu has begun a four-day official visit to Indonesia during which the two countries are to sign a defense agreement. Ian Macintosh reports that Mr. Namaliu's visit, his first as prime minister, marks the further strengthening of ties between the two countries.

[Begin Macintosh recording] Mr. Namaliu is holding talks with President Suharto and other senior Indonesian officials during a visit which illustrates the steadily improving links between Port Moresby and Jakarta. Long weary and suspicious of each other, the two countries have in recent years stepped up their contacts and cooperation in many fields.

Earlier this month they concluded the so-called Status of Forces Agreement providing for the exchange in training of armed forces personnel and other military cooperation between them. The agreement, which Mr. Namaliu has denied could be used against OPM, Free Papua Movement, rebels opposed to Indonesian sovereignty in Irian Jaya, is to be signed during the prime minister's visit by PNG's Defense Minister Benais Sabumei and his Indonesian counterpart Benni Murdani.

Meanwhile, Mr. Namaliu and his host President Suharto are tomorrow scheduled to discuss a range of bilateral and regional issues. PNG's leader and his party will then travel north to Sumatra for visits to a petroleum refinery and oil palm plantation and processing facilities before departing for Singapore on Thursday. [end recording]

'Status of Forces' Agreement Signed

BK1401085092 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Papua New Guinea [PNG] and Indonesia have signed a defense arrangement enabling the Armed Forces of the two countries to work more closely together. The status of forces agreement was signed today in Jakarta by PNG's Defense Minister Benais Sabumei and his Indonesian counterpart General Benni Murdani.

Ian MacIntosh reports from Jakarta that the two governments have denied the agreement will enable joint security activities against anti-Indonesian rebels on either side of the Irian Jaya border. Mr. Sabumei said after the signing ceremony that the agreement did not allow such operations.

Port Moresby already has a similar defense agreement with Australia and the United States.

Laos

Communications Minister Opens National Conference

BK1501043592 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] A nationwide conference on the postal and telecommunications work for 1992 was opened in Vientiane this morning. The conference was chaired by Bouathong, minister of communications, transport, posts, and construction, and attended by deputy ministers along with more than 70 representatives of the postal and telecommunications service from various city municipalities and provinces throughout the country.

In the conference, which will proceed for four days, the participants will concentrate on studying and assessing some major issues. In particular, they will candidly discuss, assess, and criticize the situation on the implementation of the postal and telecommunications work over the past year. They will also review lessons learned from concrete experiences in fulfilling, or failing to fulfill, the said work and discuss and exchange views on the work so as to firmly grasp certain principles and have a strategic direction for the expansion of the postal and telecommunications service.

The participants unanimously adopted the main measures for the implementation of the strategic direction on the basis of the slogan: the postal and telecommunications work is considered the country's nerve centre, dialectically related to economic building, production, cultural and social life, and national defense and maintenance of public security.

In his opening speech, Minister Bouathong pointed to the outstanding achievements in the postal and telecommunications sector over the past year. He also gave certain views and suggestions on the strategic direction for the improvement, rehabilitation, expansion, and management of the postal and telecommunications work. In addition, the minister discussed the basic goal for the improvement and expansion of the postal and telecommunications work in the period from now until the year 2000, saying that the goal is to increasingly broaden and improve the postal service in terms of quality so as to make the communications system a genuine nerve system of the country.

Education Ministry Reviews Achievements in 1991

BK1501045392 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] This morning, the Education and Sports Ministry held an annual meeting to review the educational work for 1991. Attending was Saman Vi-gnaket, minister of education and sports, along with deputy ministers and cadres attached to the ministry.

At the meeting, the committee in charge of the educational and sports work reported the achievements recorded in implementing the educational and sports work over the past year. It also gave a comprehensive assessment of the educational situation, especially regarding supplementary education and cultural training during the past academic year. The committee noted that there remain some difficulties in organizing training and that the implementation of the policy regarding teachers has failed to conform with reality. On one hand, there still remains a shortage of the experience and skills in organization needed to fulfill the extracurricular education project under a new form. Another main problem is that the work has been effectively carried out only in a project which has been given assistance. However, when the assistance comes to an end, the teaching and studying activities will decline.

Nevertheless, despite some positive and negative points, the educational work in many localities has generally been effectively carried out and it has even served as a firm basis for the fulfillment of the work in the future. For example, the ministry has successfully fulfilled the project of boosting the anti-illiteracy and cultural training campaigns in Oudomsai and Luang Namtha provinces; completed the collection of data for the setting up of an adult education project in Saravane Province and the setting up of education projects for ethnic minority people in Luang Namtha and Oudomsai provinces; and completed the setting up of an extracurricular education project in Savannakhet Province.

Along with the setting up of these projects, the ministry also organized a meeting on the extracurricular education for cadres in various provinces in the northern, central, and southern regions; organized seminars on the adoption of policy and the working out of plans for the extracurricular education; and organized training courses on the development of the extracurricular education work, as well as teaching-aid materials. In addition, it has improved and constituted new curricula and put them into actual practice. All these will serve as an important basis for the successful implementation and expansion of the supplementary education and cultural training in the country in the future.

Army Pledges Faith Toward Party on Anniversary

BK1301124792 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 13 Jan 91

[Editorial: "We Are Profoundly Grateful to the Lao People's Revolutionary Party—LPRP—for Organizing, Leading, Educating, and Training Our Army To Grow Stronger and More Powerful"]

[Text] Respected listeners, on 20 January 1992, our Army will be 43 years old. Looking back over the past 43 years since the founding of the Army on 22 January 1949, our armed forces have evolved through numerous fierce, complex, and complicated events. Our entire armed forces and people will never forget the LPRP [Lao People's Revolutionary Party] for organizing, leading, educating, and training our Army.

As we all know very well, our army's history and tradition began when our revolutionary unit—then only a local propaganda band comprising 25 Lao national liberation volunteers—launched a resistance movement against the foreign aggressors and local reactionaries to regain national independence and freedom for our country. At that time, we severely lacked clothes, food supplies, and shelter.

Holding aloft the slogan: "Fight resolutely and ardently; Better to die than live to be enslaved by the oppressors," and under the resolute, wise, and clear-sighted leadership of the Indochinese Communist Party—the predecessor of the LPRP, the more the Lao revolutionary armed forces fought, the stronger they became, qualitatively and quantitatively. Seizing the opportunity of our armed forces' incessant growth and development then and exploiting the military confrontation between the revolutionary armed forces and the aggressors' armed forces, the Latsavong Unit, the Saichakkaphat Unit, the Saisetthathilat, and the Fa Ngum Unit were organized as spearheads of the Pathet Lao armed forces. The formation of those units constituted the first historic victory of our Lao Army and multiethnic people, who began to possess an army entirely composed of their beloved children. The formation of the Latsavong and the other units subsequently served to mobilize the Lao people to rise up to take up arms for an extensive and strong movement against the enemy aggressors throughout the country, thus igniting the people's guerrilla war. Our armed forces launched a series of attacks against the enemy in every nook and corner of the country and managed to destroy a large number of enemy soldiers.

Throughout the 30-year period of the just struggle for national liberation, our armed forces managed not only to destroy and smash a large number of enemy aggressors, they also rapidly became stronger and more powerful. They subsequently won one victory after another wherever they attacked the enemy.

All in all, during the two periods of national liberation struggle against the colonialists and neocolonialists and under the leadership of the majestic and noble LPRP, our people's Army had consistently built and consolidated to improve.

At present, our armed forces are composed of various combat units such as the Army, Air Force, and Navy combat units. Artillery units, engineering combat units, and armored and tank combat units have also been organized in accordance with the relevant needs of the situation to ensure that our armed forces are always able to fight well and effectively fulfill all tasks entrusted by the party, state, and country.

Our armed forces are profoundly grateful to the LPRP. We absolutely believe that all the great and historic victories the Army won during the national liberation war were accomplished due to the party's brilliant leadership. All the activities and the livelihood of the Army have been successfully attained thanks to the consistent all-round guidance, supervision, and teaching of the party. This is the fundamental and decisive factor of our revolution's victories as well as the growth and development of our armed forces.

On the forthcoming 43d founding anniversary of the Lao People's Army on 20 January, we pledge that the more our entire armed forces are jubilant over and proud of our growth and development, the more our cadres and combatants are grateful to the party for leading, educating, training, and building our Army. All officers and rank-and-file soldiers would like to pledge our sincere faith toward the party leadership. We are ready to sacrifice our strength, wisdom, and lives for the tasks of national defense and national construction, to resolutely strive to fulfill the cause of restructuring, and to contribute to consolidating and enhancing the popular democratic regime in our country.

Philippines

President Aquino Signs 1992 National Budget

HK1501115492 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT

[Text] President Corazon Aquino has signed the 1992 General Appropriations Act or the national budget. The national budget is P308.4 billion [Philippine pesos]. Republic Act 7180 allocates the funds to be used by government agencies for this year. The national budget was passed by the Senate last December after the ouster of Senator Jovito Salonga as Senate president. The government department to receive the largest allocation will be the Department of Education, Culture and Sports, with P34.94 billion. The Department of Public Works and Highways comes in second with P22.08 billion. Third is the Department of National Defense which will receive P19.53 billion, followed by the Department of Local Government with P12.41 billion. Fifth is the Department of Health with P10.95 billion.

The president stressed during the simple signing ceremonies that this is the last budget for her administration and would be a continuing budget for the incoming government.

Rebels To 'Sow Terror' During Polls

HK1501060392 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 15 Jan 92 p 4

[By Dario B. Agnote]

[Text] Police authorities yesterday bared plans of communist insurgents to "sow terror" in the coming polls and to "liquidate" opponents of those candidates whom the communists support, especially in the local level.

Philippine National Police (PNP) Director General Cesar Nazareno said urban guerillas of the New People's Army (NPA) had agreed to provide an "Al Capone type

of protection" to politicians who have sought the rebels' services for the election period.

"We received reports that the communist terrorists have agreed to sell their services to terrorize and liquidate the opponents of candidates whom they support," Nazareno said

Nazareno also confirmed plans of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) to actively participate in the May polls by fielding its own candidates through the Partido ng Bayan (PNB) in areas where it holds considerable influence.

Nazareno added that the CPP-NPA and their umbrella organization, the National Democratic Front (NDF), would support "progressive" candidates in areas where they have little influence in exchange for some concessions. "The party will support only those candidates who have good chances of winning and can be manipulated for the cause of the party."

As early as August last year, Nazareno said the CPP started preparing for the elections by creating legal and underground political machineries nationwide to gather political intelligence.

"They have initiated liaisons with probable candidates and other powerful individuals. In all these CPP initiatives, the local CPP units were given the authority to determine which areas can be controlled and to choose who can receive support from the party," said a confidential police document.

Already, the executive committee of the CPP central committee has issued the following specific guidelines to its local units during the campaign period and on election day:

—Use force to ensure victory of party-supported candidates in insurgent-influenced areas;

—Continuous monitoring of all political parties and candidates;

—Collection of progressive taxes and solicitations through the issuance of "permits to campaign" to all candidates who will campaign inside the guerilla zones;

—Initiate actions so that CPP-supported candidates will not be cheated in the canvassing of votes; and

—Continuous negotiations with candidates and alliance-building with other political groups.

During the past elections, the military said the communist guerillas who opted to boycott the electoral process had sown terror to disrupt the polls.

Army Chief, NPA Official Held Dialogue

HK1401021892 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 13 Jan 92 p 8

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Infanta, Quezon—Philippine Army chief Maj. Gen. Arturo Enrile held a dialogue yesterday with Gregorio Rosal, alias "Ka Roger," of the Melito Glor command of the new People's Army (NPA), with the use of the facilities of radio station DZJO here.

Bishop Julio Labayen acted as moderator in the dialogue.

Quezon Gov. Eduardo T. Rodriguez, Quezon Philippine National Police director Senior Superintendent Rex D. Piad and two priests served as interrogators during the two-hour special radio program.

General Enrile told Rosal that if they can have a peace talk and they stop using guns and the loss of lives, he (Rosal) could set the peace-making process at his convenience.

Rosal replied that he cannot decide on the general's proposals but he will consult on the matter with the higher officials of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the National Democratic Front (NDF).

Governor Rodriguez informed Ka Roger about the government's Calabarzon program that, he said, will benefit the people not only of Quezon but also of the provinces of Laguna, Batangas, Cavite and Rizal.

Superintendent Piad told Rosal that he was not able to talk to him over radio DWTI in Lucena City last October for unknown reason.

Rosal replied that the scheduled talk on the air was interrupted after Army soldiers violated the ceasefire last October. He said that some of the materials ready for distribution and their radio communications equipment were taken away by the Army soldiers in Laguna.

Rosal also said a "safe conduct pass" was issued to him and his group by Laguna Gov. Felicisimo San Luis, retired General Ermita and Brig. Gen. C. Saavedra of the Civil Relations Service of the AFP.

Mindoro NPA Leader Surrenders, Others Arrested

HK1501062192 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 Jan 92 p 10

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Camp Vicente Lim, Laguna—A top leader of the New People's Army (NPA) in Mindoro with a price for his capture and his aide were captured, while another Mindoro communist guerrilla leader surrendered in Infanta, Quezon.

Recom [Regional Command] 4 Philippine National Police (PNP) director Supt. Umberto A. Rodriguez, in a report to PNP chief Director-General Cesar P. Nazareno, identified the surrenderee as Raul Duclayan of General Nakar, Quezon.

Duclayan was reported to have participated in the raid last year on the town hall in Sablayan, Mindoro Occidental.

He surrendered to Senior Inspector Rodolfo Y. Magtibay, commander of the 236th PNP company based in Infanta.

Six other rebels also surrendered in Quezon. Two of them were identified by Quezon PNP director Senior Superintendent Rex D. Piad as Fernando Benichel of Cagsiay, Mauban, Quezon, and his wife Fe Cuerdo. The names of the others were withheld for security reasons.

Duclayan, in a statement given to Piad last Sunday, said that he was with 50 other NPA guerrillas led by "Ka [comrade] Adong" when they raided the town hall of Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro, last year.

He told Piad that they carted away six Armalite rifles and two hand guns of the police station and some office equipment.

He said that two of their companions were killed while the police suffered no casualty.

He also said that he participated in an ambush of policemen in Abra de Ilog, Mamburao, where an officer of the PNP and some of his men were killed. Fourteen high-powered guns were taken from the government soldiers, he said.

Duclayan told Piad that he went to Quezon City for treatment of his wound at the National Orthopetic Hospital. After treatment, he said, he proceeded to General Nakar, his hometown.

Chief Supt. Umberto A. Rodriguez, in a report to Nazareno, identified the captured rebel in Mindoro as Jaime Padilla, a native of Padre Garcin, Batangas.

His companion was identified by Rodriguez as Edwin Sandoval of Sta. Cruz, Occidental Mindoro. Padilla said that he joined the Kabataang Makabayan in 1960 in Bicol and the NPA in Mindoro during the martial-law era.

Police Arrest NPA Member in Pampanga

HK1501085492 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 15 Jan 92

[By Ronald Estella]

[Text] Philippine National Police [PNP] operatives have arrested a regular member of the communist movement in Pampanga, who is allegedly acting as a New People's Army [NPA] hitman. The hitman is believed to be responsible for the killing of several policemen in Pampanga. He was arrested at the market in Santa Rita in the said province. Chief Inspector Romeo Ver, PNP area station commander, identified the NPA hitman as Ruel Maniego, alias Comrade Truman and Boyet, who was operating in Guagua, Santa Rita and Porac, all in the Province of Pampanga. One of those believed killed by Maniego was Special Police Officer 4th Class Galura who was shot at the Santa Rita market on 10 January last year.

Alleged Bicol Arms Landing Termed Hoax

HK1501062292 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 15 Jan 92 p 10

[Text] Legazpi City—Chief Superintendent Miguel Fontanilla, Bicol police director, said the other day that Bishop Leonardo Legazpi of Naga City never mentioned Camarines Sur Governor Luis Villafuerte was involved in an alleged arms landing. Fontanilla said Bishop Legazpi, "only heard the story from somebody which has never been confirmed, but which media reported prior to actual verification."

Fontanilla said an investigation on the matter showed that the allegation of arms landing was baseless. A 14-man media group in the Bicol region followed up on the story and later reported that it was a big hoax.

Thailand

Bangkok Governor To Contest Parliamentary Seat

BK1401135292 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Statement by Major General Chamlong Simuang, governor of the Bangkok Metropolis Administration; given on 14 January—recorded]

[Text] I have decided to resign from the post of Bangkok governor to run in the election for a seat in the Bangkok Constituency Two, which encompasses the Bangkok, Pomprap, Pathumwan, Samphathawong, and Bangrak Districts. I and the Phalang Tham Party colleagues will not desert the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration [BMA]. BMA Deputy Governor Kritsada Arunwong will run for the governor's post to operate Bangkok for the next four years in conjunction with the 50 Bangkok City councillors and 228 district councillors under the Phalang Tham Party to serve the citizens of Bangkok.

My decision will enable me to serve the people in the national and local levels simultaneously.

Paper Calls Decision 'Welcome News'

BK1501010392 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 92 p 4

[Editorial: "Chamlong's Entry Sets Quality Seal on Election"]

[Text] A prominent figure in one of the major political parties who will contest the upcoming poll in an eastern-border province threw a large Chinese-dinner party a few days ago for his local supporters. An internecine rift has erupted in recent days at another large party over

whether local mafia types or personalities with influential but questionable background should be allowed to run under its banner. Across the entire political spectrum, various groups and factions are engaged in sometimes not-so-discreet manoeuvrings either to extract the maximum gains for their own partisan interests or to ensure they are allied with parties that will be included in the post-election new government.

These phenomena are hardly encouraging for a society that is trying to set off on a new political course—or putting it more correctly, to return to political normality—after a year of disruption precipitated by last February's coup d'etat. Last week's official appointment of the election watchdog commission is a positive development that should help in some measure to ensure the fairness of the March 22 election. But already, several leading politicians and political commentators are resigned to the prospect that money politics will continue to plague the upcoming poll as it did previous elections. It is feared that despite some new faces here and there, the majority of electoral contestants who will successfully return to the new House of Representatives will be the same old familiar faces.

Against this background, the unexpected decision yesterday by Phalang Tham Party leader Chamlong Simuang to resign from his Bangkok governorship so that he can lead his party to contest the general election is welcome news. Although Maj-Gen Chamlong has been accused in the past of being dictatorial and impractical, he has managed to retain his untainted image as a political "Mr Clean" through his years at the helms of the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration. His decision to enter the national political arena should produce the immediate effect of forcing other parties to be more selective in fielding 'quality' candidates, particularly in constituencies where Phalang Tham is known to be popular such as Bangkok and surrounding provinces. In a broader context, this should also help to uplift the overall standard of Thai politics.

But although Phalang Tham promises to be a potent political force that other major parties will have to reckon with, the party cannot expect to produce any significant impact on national politics unless Maj-Gen Chamlong modifies his leadership and management style. Personal honesty and integrity have been and will remain his assets, but he will have to learn to be more open-minded and pragmatic. His critics, including some in the current military leadership, have criticised him for being too self-centred to the extent of being dictatorial. Such criticism does not appear to be entirely groundless given instances in the past when some senior Phalang Tham executives openly made known their dissatisfaction on this very aspect. Maj-Gen Chamlong will also have to rein in the influence of fundamentalist elements within his party's inner circles to make it more appealing for liberal-minded forces to join the party.

The well-known slogan of "clean water flushing out dirty water" that Maj-Gen Chamlong used when campaigning for his first Bangkok governorship term six years ago may well apply again this time around. But since the forthcoming national election will be played out on a far larger stage than the Bangkok election, it will require enormously more honest elements to be able to counter the corrupt elements. The Phalang Tham leader's decision yesterday is a development in the right direction. Let's hope that the other parties will take up the Phalang Tham challenge by intensifying their search for honest and capable people to field in the March 22 poll.

Parties To Have Free Air Time for Campaigning

BK1501013792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 92 p 1

[Text] The Government yesterday decided to allocate a generous package of free TV and radio air time for campaigning by all political parties contesting the March 22 general election.

Each party will be allotted an average five hours of TV broadcasting time and 100 minutes of radio time under a proposal approved by the Cabinet yesterday, according to an informed political source.

Deputy Prime Minister Pol Gen Phao Sarasin confirmed the decision, saying that all parties will be given an equal and fair chance in making use of the special times.

The source said the exercise, which is aimed at generating maximum public awareness of the election, will take place from February 19 to March 18.

Under the proposal worked out by PM's Office Minister Michai Wirawaithaya, the parties will explain their policy platforms and answer questions in a series of programmes to be aired on a rotational basis on all four national TV stations—Channels 3, 5, 7 and 9.

The source said the programmes will be broken up into two parts of one hour each nightly, the first of which will be a straight outlining of party policies and the second to be devoted to questions and answers.

The commercial-free Channel 11 operated by the Public Relations Department (PRD) will also air another component of the series.

A 10-minute segment of campaign addresses by the parties will also be broadcast following each of the four PRD daily news bulletins broadcast over more than 400 radio stations throughout the country.

Defense Ministry Plan Wins Cabinet Approval

BK1501031392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jan 92 p A3

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved a Defence Ministry plan to commercially exploit properties belonging to military units but put a brake on the proposal that the armed forces keep all the proceeds.

The Defence Ministry had been asked by the Cabinet to rewrite its proposal in consultation with the Finance Ministry's Treasury Department and resubmit it for consideration.

Further legal steps will need to be passed before the plan is enacted.

The Defence Minstry plan was initially rejected by both government screening committees on economic affairs and national security because of the military's failure to clarify "ambiguities" in the plan.

The screening committees wanted to know exactly what type of commerical activities would be carried out on the land and who would benefit from the proceeds from the leases.

The Finance Minstry had voiced strong objections, particularly to the military proposal that it pocket all the profits from the outside use of its land. It was concerned that a precedent would be set for other government agenices and that the government would be deprived of an important source of revenue.

The Finance Ministry's Treasury Department is the legal owner and responsible for the management of all public land held by governemnt agencies throughout the country. Utilization of designated public land and land belonging to government agencies must have the approval of the Finance Ministry.

The military had insisted that it wanted to develop the land for agricultural and industrial enterprises. Returns from these projects would be kept by the Defence Ministry, a move that runs counter to normal fiscal discipline.

Senior military leaders had stipulated that if the plan was approved, part of the proceeds would be channelled into a fund for the modernization of the armed forces, improvement of servicement's welfare as well as the implementation of rural devleopment programmes. At this stage it is not known whether any of the revenue, or how much of it, from the leased military lands will be carmarked for military use.

One of the proposed projects under the plan is to move the Second Cavalry Division on Phahoyothin Road out of Bangkok and lease the plot to private developers. The plan to move military installations out of town would assist with alleviating Bangkok's traffic problem.

New Groups To Stem Illegal Immigration

BK1501023192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 92 p 6

[Text] Special working groups will be set up at provincial and district level in northern border provinces to take stringent measures against an inflow of illegal immigrants.

National Security Council deputy secretary-general Khachatphai Burutphat said yesterday the move has been prompted by the fact that apart from Burmese, Haw Chinese and hilltribesmen, Chinese from Yunnan have entered Thailand in a larger number in the past two years.

The Chinese from Yunnan entered Thailand through two routes. The first is from Chiang Roong in Yunnan through Shan State and Myawaddy in Burma to Mae Sot District in Tak. The other route is from Chiang Roong through Sumao in China and Shantung in Burma to Mae Sai District in Chiang Mai.

The NSC deputy chief said most of Chinese stay temporariiy in Thailand where they can get fake passports and then proceed to a third country.

This explains why police have smashed many fake passport gangs recently, Mr Khachatphai said.

"The growing number of illegal Chinese immigrants may indicate that they cannot tolerate the living conditions in China or they may be looking for a new country with better economic and political conditions."

In addition, police have recently rescued many Yunnan women from brothels.

Mr Khanchatphai said he discussed the whole problem in the North last week with the governor of Chiang Rai, the representative of the Chiang Mai governor, Task Force 327 commander Lt-Gen Phonprasoet Chulasawek, who is in charge of Kuomintang affairs, district officers and provincial, Border Patrol and immigration police.

The meeting agreed to set up provincial and district level special working groups to take stringent measures against illegal entry. A provincial level committee will be chaired by the provincial governor while a district level committee will be chaired by the district officer.

The NSC deputy chief said that in the past it was difficult for local authorities to prevent illegal crossings of the Thai-Burmese border. There are no permanent crossing points because Burma does not have a policy to have any. Instead, people can cross the border at temporary crossing points such as at Mae Sai, Mae Sot and Ranong, without having to carry a border pass. This causes illegal crossing to go unchecked.

Turning to Laotian refugees, Mr Khachatphai said there have been few problems since Thailand, Laos and the United Nations' High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) signed a memorandum to repatriat 62,000 Lao refugees within three years. Repatriation has been carried out, he said.

As for Cambodian displaced persons, the United Nations is building six reception centres along Route 5 and Route 6 in Cambodia to accommodate them.

The UN needs about US$109 million for this purpose and so far it has acquired about US$20 million, he said.

All Lao Refugees To Be Repatriated 'by 1994'

BK1501021992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jan 92 p A4

[Text] All Lao refugees in Thailand are expected to be sent back home by 1994, a Thai official at a refugee camp in Phayao province said yesterday.

Mongkhon Sailaemthong, a refugee vocation training coordinator at Chiang Kham Refugee Camp, said the refugees will be repatriated to their country as Thailand and the Untied Nations have shouldered the burden for too many years. Last year, the UN had to provide a Bt [baht] 15 million fund solely for the Chiang Kham Refugee Camp, he added.

Mongkhon said there are about 18,000-19,000 refugees at the camp after a number of refugees there returned to Laos. He did not say whether those former inmates of the camp went back voluntarily. He said the UN has cooperated with the Lao government in providing lodgings for the refugees who are expected to return to their homeland in the future.

According to Mongkhon, the UN will not send the refugees back to Laos for the time being because the area designated for them to set up their homes is close to the site of recent clashes between government and anti-Vientiane forces.

"The Lao refugees want to return home because they still have their relatives there," said Mongkhon. However, the UN is worried about their safety if they are repatriated too soon, he added. He said the UN plans to give each of the refugees Bt2,000 in addition to the Lao government's financial help when they return home.

Cabinet To Not Encourage Logging in Region

BK1501024792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jan 92 p A3

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday resolved against encouraging the private sector to carry out logging business in neighboring countries for fear that such business would tarnish Thailand's image and caused a long-termed impact on regional environment.

The move followed the concentration of world's environmental campaigns and anti-tropical timber campaigns conducted by non-governmental organizations both in Europe and the United Sates.

The degradation of environment at home forced the governmeent under the former Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan to ban logging at home and export of timbers and instead import timbers from neighboring countries including Burma and Laos.

Loggers Flee Fighting in Burma

BK1501012992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 92 p 6

[Text] Mae Sot, Tak—Logging equipment and vehicles worth millions of baht owned by a Thai logging company were left behind in Burma after fighting between Karen rebels and Burmese troops erupted yesterday evening opposite Phop Phra District and workers fled to the Thai side of the border.

One of the workers who fled to Ban Valey Tai said the company is a sub-contractor of Muang Pana Co.

The company, which set up a logging camp 50 km from the border, had moved its equipment and vehicles to the border after being told by Burmese troops to stop logging and move out of the area.

Burmese troops yesterday clashed with Karen National Union soldiers near where the equipment had been moved pending a shift to the Thai side of the border.

Tak Governor Chamnian Sasibut yesterday began an inspection trip of the four border districts—Tha Song Yang, Mae Ramat, Phop Phra and Mae Sot—in the wake of an ongoing suppression drive by Burmese troops of minority rebels.

Anan Leaves for SRV Visit; Minister Comments

BK1501081792 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun and his party left for an official visit to Vietnam from the Royal Thai Air Force Headquarters Airport, Don Muang, this morning.

The entourage comprises Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin, Industry Minister Sippanon Ketuthat, and Phaichit Uathawikun, minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office.

The prime minister and his party were seen off at the airport by two deputy prime ministers, Michai Ruchuphan and Police General Phao Sarasin, and Wichian Watthanakhun, deputy foreign minister.

Before departure, Wichian granted an interview to reporters saying that the main objective of the visit was to negotiate with the Vietnamese counterparts on bilateral economic cooperation.

[Begin Wichian recording in progress] ...the problem between Thailand and Vietnam concerning their fishing trawlers is expected to lessen gradually when the agreement is established. Regarding this matter, Vietnam has not made sufficient consultations with its provinces. There must have been insufficient coordination among Vietnamese authorities themselves.

[Reporter] How much time has Vietnam asked for on this issue?

[Wichian] They asked for a little more time.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Wichian] I think that during the prime minister's visit they would explain to him the reasons. The Vietnamese chairman of the Council of Ministers is expected to explain to our prime minister the reasons why the signing of fisheries cooperation agreement between Thailand and Vietnam cannot yet be made. Concerning this, as far as we know, the cause of the delay came from its southern provinces, which said that they have not at all been consulted by the central government. The interests of the southern provinces have not been taken into account. They said that they should be given opportunities to express their opinions. Therefore, the Vietnamese central government has asked us for some time. The request was made by the Vietnamese foreign minister himself. The SRV foreign minister made a request to our ambassador asking for time for them to talk things out first with the southern provinces concerned before the signing is made. Therefore, it does not mean that the signing has been scrapped. It is expected that the signing of the fisheries cooperation agreement will take place, because both sides feel that it must take place. The only remaining problem now is that the authorities of the southern part of Vietnam might have been disheartened because the region used to be a country. Furthermore, Thailand is going to open a consulate general in Ho Chi Minh City, or former Saigon. During the visit, the prime minister is expected to confirm to them that our consulate will be opened soon. [end recording]

This afternoon between 1400-1500 [Hanoi local time], the Thai prime minister and Vietnamese Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet will hold official consultations at the Council of State Chairman's Office. The Thai foreign minister will also participate in the meeting. During the same period, all the Thai ministers will hold seperate meetings with their Vietnamese counterparts on the matters they are responsible for. The official meeting between the full delegations of Thailand and Vietnam will take place from 1500 to 1600.

At 1715 the Thai prime minister will pay a courtesy call on the chairman of the Vietnamese Council of State at the Council of State chairman's Office. In the evening the Vietnamese chairman of the Council of Ministers will host a state banquet in honor of the visiting Thai prime minister at the Council of State chairman's office.

Rapid Start to Cambodia Mine Clearance Urged

BK1501011792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jan 92 p A12

[Editorial: "Mine-sweeping Operations Must Start Without Delay"]

[Text] Thailand's decision to send up to 800 army personnel to join the UN's operations to remove mines in Cambodia is correct and should be well-received by all parties concerned. It is also one of the few positive developments on the landmine issue since the Cambodian peace accords were signed in Paris last October.

Thailand has qualified personnel available for this rather dangerous operations. The Thais are quite familiar with all types of explosive charges used by the four warring Cambodian factions. They will have little or no difficulty adjusting to the climate and terrain along the Thai-Cambodian border and western Cambodia where the operations will first concentrate. Their primary mission is to deactivate all the minefields to create safe passage for the repatriation of the estimated 350,000 displaced Cambodians from the border to their reception centres in western Cambodia.

The Thai personnel will come under the command of Brig Gen Michel Loridon, military chief of the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia. This seems to be one of the least controversial roles for Thailand's participation in the implementation of the Paris accords. The other being undertaken by the Thais is the repair of the 48-km-long highway linking the border town of Poipet with Sisophon, the northwestern Cambodian town through which many of the repatriated Cambodians, UN personnel and supplies will pass.

Thailand's contiguity to Cambodia makes some role, direct or indirect, in the war-torn country inevitable. The Cambodian factions as well as other major parties in the Cambodian settlement process have been careful not to give Thailand any roles that Vietnam may object to, such as a presence in the UN peacekeeping force.

Repairing the border highway will, no doubt, benefit Thai traders in the long run as Thailand is a major supply source of consumer products in Cambodian markets. Removing the mines will also make it much safer for the border trade, agriculture in the resettlement areas and for tourism as well.

More importantly, the safe and convenient border passages will greatly facilitate the repatriation of the 350,000 Cambodians, many of whom have been living in border encampments for years because of fighting in the Cambodian conflict. These Cambodians are not qualified for resettlement in third countries and most of them want to return to Cambodia when it is safe to do so.

Since the four Cambodian factions planted the mines, it stands to reason that they should play a more active role in removing them. The Cambodians will likely be able to get along well with the Thais in this tedious but vitally necessary operation. Each day's work will mean that several would-be hapless victims are saved from being blown up or maimed by the hidden explosive charges scattered in the tens of thousands along the border. The sooner the mine-sweeping operations start, the more lives that will be saved from the booby traps.

Three months after the Paris accords, leaders of the four Cambodian factions on the Supreme National Council still seem to be unable to cooperate and work collectively for their own country and bring home their fellow

countrymen from the border encampments. Clearing the mines in their respective military strongholds is something the Cambodian leaders must agree to do and to cooperate on. For this will not put any of them at a disadvantage militarily or politically, but will enable all the displaced Cambodians to return to their homeland safely.

Without substantial progress in the mine-sweeping operations, the ambitious plan of the UN to start sending back the displaced Cambodians in April may have to be postponed.

Thailand is now ready to commit its personnel for the operations. It is imperative that the SNC puts aside its internal differences and agrees on a Cambodian role so that the operations can begin as soon as possible.

Bank Gives 2.5 Billion Baht Credit to Vietnam

BK1501015192 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jan 92 p B1

[Text] The Bank of Thailand has agreed in principle to open a credit line worth US$100 million (Bt2.5 billion) to Vietnam for purchase of Thai products, but the terms of credit have yet to be set by the Commerce Ministry, sources said.

The credit facility, the second scheme Thailand has ever launched, was introduced following the central bank's decision late last year, to extend US$50 million (Bt1.25 billion) to the former Soviet Union, to buy farm products from Thailand.

Separately, the Cabinet yesterday approved a long-term credit worth Bt150 million through the state-run Krung Thai Bank to Vietnamese importers, as a gesture of goodwill toward its neighbour, on the eve of Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun's visit to Hanoi.

At the same time, Thailand and Vietnam, two of the world's largest rice exporters, plan to cooperate to end "cut-throat" rice pricing and to stabilize rice prices in that country.

A memorandum of understanding on rice trading practices will be signed during the premier's trip, Thailand Ambassador to Hanoi Suraphong Chaiyanam said.

According to sources in the central bank, the US $100-million trade credit to Vietnam is part of the Commerce Ministry's recommendations to promote commercial ties with the cash-strapped neighbour.

The Commerce Ministry is entitled to set the repayment term, grace period and interest rate on the soft-loan, as well as the types of products Vietnam should buy from Thai traders. Sources said the agreement should be signed sometime next month.

At a joint meeting among the Foreign, Industry, Agriculture and Commerce ministries on Monday at the Foreign Ministry, Pridiyathon Thewakun [Government Spokesman] declined to inform the meeting details of the credit facility Thailand is to grant to Vietnam.

He was quoted as saying that he was requested by the Vietnamese counterpart not to reveal the details. The meeting on Monday was chaired by Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin. Pridiyathon was tight-lipped when asked to comment on the financial assistance scheme yesterday.

During Pridiyathon's visit to Vietnam last week, he also initialled an agreement on rice pricing cooperation. The minister was accompanying an advance mission to prepare for Anan's trip, which starts today.

However, Thai officials denied that Thailand and Vietnam are trying to form a rice cartel, but said they would exchange information about when to release rice on the international market to obtain the best prices.

Thailand exported 6.03 million tonnes of rice in 1989, making it the second-largest exporter behind the United States. Vietnam emerged that year as the world's third largest exporter, reversing a decade of dependency on imports.

Vietnam's rice exports swelled to a record 1.5 million tonnes in 1990, before falling back to one million tonnes last year, according to Hanoi's figures.

Both countries were able to conclude the agreement successfully after several rounds of negotiations between rice millers and exporters associations of the two countries.

Thailand suffered severely in 1990 when Vietnam dumped its low-grade rice into the world market, forcing exporters to sell the grain at a loss to maintain regular customers. Since then, there were attempts to get Vietnam to cooperate on rice pricing.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet yesterday approved trade credits worth Bt150 million to Vietnam, which will be released through Krung Thai Bank. The loans carry an interest of 3 percent and should be repaid in 10 years with a grace period of five years. The credits will be reimbursed from the 1992's emergency budget.

Prime Minister Anan is expected to hand over the trade credits to Vietnam when he visits the country today. Anan will return on Jan 17.

The Cabinet also approved the draft agreement on fisheries cooperation with Vietnam, despite the fact that Hanoi has informed the Thai ambassador there that it is not ready to sign the agreement during Anan's visit.

Despite Vietnam's refusal to sign the fishery pact, At (At Taolanon, deputy agriculture minister] told reporters yesterday that the ministry wanted to get the draft agreement approved by the Cabinet, just in case Vietnam changed its mind and agreed to sign the accord while Anan is there.

Agriculture Minister Anat Aphaphirom said although the premier to Vietnam in response to Vietnam's unexpected decision to postpone the signing of the fishery pact, Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin, who will be in Hanoi, may sign the agreement in that instance.

Better Ties With Malaysia Sought

BK1501024392 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 92 p 8

[Text] The southern border provinces will continue to promote understanding and tighten relations between Thailand and Malaysia at the local level this year, Local Administration Department deputy director-general Damri Watthanasing said yesterday.

Mr Damri said to fulfil this goal the Southern Border Province Administrative Committee will hold a seminar of religious, community and economic leaders and government officials mid-year to promote relations between Thai and Malaysian border provinces.

Each province will be supported with 40,000 baht to hold activities such as seminars, study tours, sports and cultural exchanges, he said.

Vietnam

Alleged KGB Involvement in MIA Issue Viewed

BK1501110992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Station Commentary]

[Text] The American newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES recently remarked that the question of American missing in the Vietnam War is (?ruining) American trust in the Bush administration. In this connection, our radio contributes this comment:

It is common knowledge that for many years the U.S. Administration has been using the MIA issue as one of the conditions for normalizing relations with Vietnam, and many opportunists have been capitalizing on the same issue against Vietnam and made profit in utter disregard of the pride of many MIA American families. They tried to publicize the MIA issue through a set of photos taken from an old Soviet megazine, and most recently, the allegation of one former KGB official to the effect that his colleague had interviewed some CIA agents captured during the war in Vietnam and these agents are being held by Hanoi.

This is nothing but a fabrication which was confirmed by the U.S. Government official after an investigation. This official noted that so far, there has been no evidence to conclude that any prisoner of war is being detained by Hanoi. A spokesman for the U.S. State Department on Tuesday, 14 January, said that the United States has decided to put an end to investigation into report that American prisoners of war are being held in the former Soviet Union. The same spokesman said: Investigation carried out in Kazakhstan from January 8 to 11 produced no evidence of American Prisoners of War detention, and therefore, the State Department will not continue investigating until new evidence appears. This is a move conforming to reason and human conscience. Broad section of American public has supported this law and recommended that the paranoid about American personnel missing in action should be ended.

For its part, Vietnam is carrying out an open door policy advocating friendship with all countries irrespective of political system. Vietnamese Communist Party leader Do Muoi said that Vietnam always shows goodwill in her relations with the United States. This [word indistinct] vivid expression last year in Vietnam's cooperative attitude toward the settlement of MIA and other humanitarian issue. So far, Vietnam has returned to the United States about 500 sets of remains of the GIs who died in the Vietnam War. This guesture of goodwill has been highly appreciated by the U.S. Government officials. Similarly, the U.S. Government has also taken positive steps. Recently, it decided to lift the ban on American tourists to Vietnam as well as the 25-mile restriction on the movement of Vietnamese diplomats in New York. However, broad section of public opinion in the United States and Vietnam and other parts of the World has not been satisfied with this step. People of conscience are calling on the U.S. Government to lift its trade embargo against this war torn and underdeveloped country and normalize relations with Vietnam in the interest of the people of Vietnam and the United States and in conformity with the common trend for peace, cooperation, and development.

Expanding Ties With Outside World Discussed

BK1501023092 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Over the past 10 days foreign diplomatic and business delegations have paid so many visits to Vietnam that a Hanoi-based REUTERS correspondent has had to explain: There has never been such a situation that hotels in Hanoi are always packed with foreign guests.

It is true that right on the first day of the new year many Thai officials visited Vietnam including the commander-in-chief of the Thai Armed Forces, General Suchinda, followed by a delegatuion headed by a Thai deputy foreign minister to prepare for the official visit by Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun. These events indicate a growing relationship between Vietnam and Thailand. Many investment projects and joint ventures have been under way with total capital of nearly $40 million from Thailand.

Right now, a high-ranking economic mission of the Japanese Government is on a 10-day visit to Vietnam. This is the first high-level delegation from Japan over the

past decade. More important, the delegation will discuss resumption of economic assistance to Vietnam. Prior to the visit, Tokyo had informed of an official aid package of yen 12 billion for 1992, the first one after more than a decade.

Meanwhile, big firms from Japan are investing in Vietnam. Nissho-Iwai, for example, is joining Vietnam in building a power plant with capital investment of more than $700 million.

Besides, progress has also been made in the relations with Britain and France. The freshly concluded four day visit to Vietnam by the British Foreign Office minister, Lord Caithness, has helped strengthen the natural Britain-Vietnam relations. The two countries are making efforts to work toward the settlement of asylum seekers and cooperation in trade and investment. Lord Caithness stated that his country would like to promote bilateral cooperation with Vietnam, help Vietnam increase ties with the EEC, the IMF and the World Bank as well as other financial organizations. He also promised, together with other countries, to persuade the U.S. to lift its trade embargo against Vietnam. For his part, the head of the French Parliament's External Relations Committee, Michel Vauzelle, during his visit to Vietnam, told party General Secretary Do Muoi that the French Parliament, Government and people want to broaden and strengthen cooperation with Vietnam. France is resolved to help Vietnam develop its economy and win back the role it deserves on the international arena.

After one year making friends and doing business with the outside world, Vietnam finds this orientation a correct one. The country is determined to go ahead in this direction and, as party leader Do Muoi put it, Vietnam will create favorable conditions for other countries to do business with Vietnam.

Heavy Industry Finds New Foreign Markets

BK1401154792 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 14—In 1991, the heavy industry service has found new foreign markets in Southeast Asia, Middle East and Europe after the sudden collapse of its traditional markets in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Machine tools, mechanized tools and minerals are now exported to Algeria, Southeast Asia and Europe instead of to East European countries.

Laminated steel, cast iron, ferrosilic and calcium carbide are exported to Thailand, Japan, South Korea and Singapore.

Industrial and consumer rubber products have been exported for the first time to developed capitalist countries.

Electric appliances are exported to Taiwan and Hong Kong.

In 1991, the heavy industry achieved an output value of VND 2,824 billion, 38.4 percent more than 1990. Meanwhile its export value increased to USD 32.2 million, up 22 percent compared to 1990.

In 1992, the sector plans to turn out 4.8 million tons of crude oil, 160,000 tons of steel, and 400,000 tons of fertilizer, and other products.

Commentary Discusses Bush's Asia-Pacific Tour

BK1501013492 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 7 Dec 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] In his first trip abroad in the new year, President George Bush visited Australia, Singapore, South Korea, and Japan with an aim of strengthening U.S. policy toward the Asia-Pacific region. After great changes in Eastern Europe and the disintegration of the former state, the Washington administration sees the need for increasing U.S. presence in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly in Australia, Japan, and South Korea whose economies are dynamic. In this context, wherever he went George Bush pledged to strengthen economic and security cooperation with Asia-Pacific countries. In his speeches in Australia and Singapore, Mr. George Bush attacked trade policies of members of the European Community which want trade monopoly in the region.

Moreover, the White House top leader reaffirmed the U.S. military presence in the Pacific. This stand has been reiterated on many occasions during his stay in Singapore. Thus, it will be recalled, under strong public pressure the United States is being compelled to withdraw from its military bases in the Philippines and cut down its troop training in Japan and South Korea.

In Japan George Bush dealt with bilateral economic relations and this is the last and most important leg of his Asian-Pacific tour.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST, after the upheavals in the former Soviet Union, Japan has now become the most important country in American eyes as it is the second economic superpower. This trip is the test for President Bush's talent in coping with the world situation after changes in the former Soviet Union. In Tokyo he faced strong criticism for the U.S. trade policy toward Japan. The [words indistinct] by the U.S. secretary of commerce's statement that Japan's trade ties have overrated U.S. economic recession. Therefore, the visit to Japan by George Bush is likely to involve a U.S.-Japan trade dispute and deprive the U.S. President of all hopes he put in the Japan visit.

In Australia and South Korea Mr. Bush was marred by unpleasant events. More than 3,000 Australian farmers

demonstrated in Canberra against U.S. agricultural policies; in South Korea many farmers and students staged a parade with tractors carrying farm produce in protest against the import of U.S. farm produce.

Washington's objectives set for the current Asia-Pacific tour of President Bush may remain difficult to be achieved. The countries he visited have not made any concrete commitments as the grounds for the achievement of Washington's goal.

Commentary Previews Thai Prime Minister's Visit

BK1501025692 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Over the last three months, particularly since the official visit to Thailand by Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet, the cooperative relations between Vietnam and Thailand have entered a new stage. The two countries have promoted exchanges of visits as expressed clearly in the recent high-level Thai visits to Vietnam. General Suchinda Khraprayun, supreme commander of the Thai Army and commander-in-chief of the Royal Thai Navy [as heard], had just concluded his visit to Vietnam when the Thai Government delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Wichian Watthanakhun came to Vietnam to prepare for Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun's coming visit.

Of late, many Thai ministers of various economic branches have visited Vietnam to promote bilateral cooperation. In fact, long steps of development have been made between Vietnam and Thailand in both economic and political fields. Many important economic agreements have been signed. They include the agreements on investment and on the setting up of a joint Viet-Thai commission for economic cooperation. And the most important one is an agreement on economic development. Two-way trade turnover has increased many-fold. More than 100 Thai conmpanies have come to Vietnam to seek business opportunities.

The coming official visit by the Thai prime minister will be an important event in Viet-Thai relations and will contribute to further positive development of bilateral ties. During his official visit to Thailand in late last year, Premier Vo Van Kiet was told by his Thai counterpart, Anan Panyarachun, that the Thai-Vietnamese relations had a sad past. Now that the past is gone, both Thailand and Vietnam are striving for a bright future. They have the necessary conditions and will to achieve their goals. Also, they are having positive relations. That affirmation of the head of the Thai Government is being materialized. Vietnam believes that the coming official visit to Vietnam by the Thai prime minister will bring new good signs to bilateral relations.

However, to further promote bilateral ties Vietnam and Thailand will have to discuss and solve a number of problems. At present efforts are being made for these purposes. With good will and friendship Vietnam is convinced that both countries will find out a way to join in promoting their cooperation and national development, thus contributing to peace, stability in Southeast Asia.

Doan Khue Talks With Thai General Suchinda

BK1401161392 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 6 Jan 92

[Text] At the invitation of Senior Lieutenant General Dao Dinh Luyen, deputy minister of national defense and chief of the Vietnam People's Army [VPA] General Staff, a Thai high-ranking military delegation led by Gen. Suchinda Khraprayun, supreme commander of the Thai Armed Forces and commander-in-chief of the Royal Thai Army paid an official friendship visit to Vietnam.

On 6 January, the Vietnamese military delegation led by Senior Lt. Gen. Dao Dinh Luyen held talks with the visiting Thai high-ranking military delegation led by Gen. Suchinda Khraprayun.

Both sides informed each other of the socioeconomic development situation and activities of the Army in each country. Both sides expressed delight with the new, fine development in relations between the two countries. Both sides also expressed the desire to strengthen solidarity and friendship between the two countries and enhance understanding and mutual trust between the two Armies and peoples, thereby contributing to maintaining peace, stability, and cooperation between nations in the region and the world.

On the same day, Gen. Doan Khue, minister of national defense cordially received the visiting Thai military delegation. Gen. Doan Khue welcomed and wished the Thai delegation every success.

Gen. Suchinda Khraprayun expressed his gratitude for the friendship and warm welcome extended to his delegation by the Vietnamese Government and Army. He wished the Vietnamese people and the VPA many successes in implementing the renovation undertaking.

Commentary Views Resumption of Japanese Aid

BK1501020092 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 9 Jan 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] One of the first decisions of the Japanese Government in the first days of the year is designated to Vietnam. Tokyo intended to provide an aid package of yen 4 billion this year, the first official aid to Vietnam in 14 years. Though the package is not large, it is of important significance to both Vietnam and Japan.

Immediately after that decision, Japanese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, in his recent China visit, maintained that Japan wants to resume its

aid to Vietnam soon. He also made known that his government has decided to send an official delegation to Vietnam on 11 January to study the economic situation and discuss projects in the development aid programs to Vietnam.

Actually, the Japanese Government has adopted new viewpoints toward Vietnam. It considers economic restoration in Vietnam relating to political stability in the region and aid resumption to Vietnam an important task in its Asian policy after peace is restored in Cambodia.

This decision of the Japanese Government has won nationwide support, especially from the Japanese business circles. For a long time now the business circle in Japan has shown concern over Vietnam's labor force, coal, oil, gas, and natural resources. They want Japan to establish development relations with Vietnam. Nissho-Iwai Company, a large trading group which has representative offices in 150 countries including Vietnam, is very interested in economic cooperation with Vietnam. In previous years when the Japanese Government still imposed restrictions on relations with Vietnam, the company accounted of half of the two-way trade turnover between the two countries.

At present Japan ranks fourth after French, British, and Belgian investors in Vietnam with a total investment capital of $17 million. Now that the Japanese Government has adopted new, positive viewpoints toward Vietnam, the trade relations between Japan and Vietnam will further develop. So too relations in the fields of politics, culture, education, and science. This development confirms to the aspirations of the two countries and contributes to peace and stability in Asia and the Pacific.

Do Muoi Receives Cuban Economic Delegation

BK1401160792 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 14—Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, this afternoon received Arturo Guzman Pascual, chairman of Cuba's state committee for prices, who is heading a Cuban Government economic delegation to the 12th session of the Vietnam-Cuba Intergovernmental Commission recently held here.

The party leader spoke highly of the results of the session, which helps broaden cooperation, trading and mutual assistance between Vietnam and Cuba, and contributes to consolidating and developing their traditional friendship.

He expressed firm belief that the entire party and people of Cuba will overcome present difficulties, and boost economic production, improve the people's living conditions, and build a strong and prosperous Cuba.

For his part, the Cuban head delegate expressed his wish that the cooperation and mutual assistance between Cuba and Vietnam would be further consolidated and developed.

Cuban Ambassadress Tania Maceira Delgado was present at the reception.

Directive on Smuggling, Counterfeiting Issued

BK1401090992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 29 Dec 91

[Text] On 28 December, the Council of Ministers Chairman issued Directive No. 418-CT on strengthening guidance in the struggle against goods smuggling. The directive called on comrade ministers, heads of sectors, and people's committee chairmen of provinces and municipalities to personally supervise the campaign against goods smuggling in their sectors, agencies, and localities.

The directive also urged all agencies concerned to formulate policies and measures to accelerate this campaign in close association with the task against corruption. It also said that these agencies shall be responsible and accountable to the Council of Ministers chairman if goods smuggling and counterfeiting occur in sectors and localities under their jurisdiction.

The directive clearly asserted responsibility and authority of each sector and echelon to strengthen internal management and maintain order and discipline, in accordance with the new management mechanism from the center down to the grass-roots levels, as well as at economic establishments of the state and mass organizations. Efforts should also be made to check activities of business units of various economic components to remind them to abide by the state law. Each sector and echelon should formulate concrete plans and policies, and provide guidance to and coordinate with localities to uniformly implement various measures against goods smuggling.

The Council of Ministers chairman also stressed the significance of this struggle and urged agencies concerned to uniformly take economic, administrative, judicial, ideological, and organizational measures to oppose goods smuggling while striving to enhance the combined strength of other forces to support the fulfillment of this task.

Nguyen Khanh Addresses Awards Ceremony

BK1201101192 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 24 Dec 91

[Text] A ceremony was held in Hanoi on 24 December to present awards to winners of the 1991 national contest on technological innovations. The contest was jointly held by the State Commission for Science and Technology, the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee, and the Vietnam Scientific Associations Union.

Comrade Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, attended and addressed the ceremony.

Professional and nonprofessional scientists from almost 30 provinces and municipalities, and six sectors and ministries at the central level have submitted 334 technological innovations to the contest. These innovations are related to methods to save raw materials and electric power in production and fuel in communications and transportation, optimal use of new energy sources, technical methods in processing subsidiary food crops, and measures to control the threat of harmful insects to save crops.

There were more topics in this year's contest than in last year's, and more attention was paid to the urgent requirements of the national economy.

The examination committee sorted out 39 topics, of which four won the first prizes valued at 6 million dong each. The organizing committee, moreover, presented a special prize for the innovation of designing a device to regulate hydroelectric power systems.

On this occasion the organizing committee also announced the 1992-93 national technological innovations contest.

Nong Duc Manh Attends Forest Institute Ceremony

BK1301041792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Dec 91

[Text] The Forest Survey and Planning Institute of the Ministry of Forestry on 25 December held a ceremony to mark its 30th founding anniversary and to receive the Labor Order, First Class, bestowed by the State.

Comrade Nong Duc Manh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Political Bureau and head of the party Central Committee Nationalities Department attended and addressed the ceremony.

Over the past 30 years, the institute has designed more than 500 forest preservation projects for various villages, cities, and provinces throughout the country as well as other projects related to the protection, optimal use, and planting of forest trees. It also formulated plans to increase the volume of raw material for paper production and timber processing, completed economic-technical feasibility studies for 179 state forestry sites, classified more than 1,000 species of timber and 500 species of new trees, and conducted surveys to improve the ecological conditions of natural and planted forests. The institute also published 16 documents and handbooks on Vietnamese forests and timber, documents on economic- technical targets of the forest sector and other information related to survey and planning of forest tree planting.

In the days ahead, the institute will combine its survey and planning tasks with the implementation of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau's resolution on developing economy of the mountain regions.

Silk Production Reportedly Reaches Alltime High

BK1101145592 Hanoi VNA in English 1234 GMT 11 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 11—Silk production is at an all time high. The "91 exports were 40 percent over the figure targeted and the output was nearly 51 percent higher. Of the estimated USd [United States dollars] 14 million in exports, 6 million was produced by the Vietnam Union of Natural Silk and Mulberry Production Enterprises, the biggest among the 15 silk exporters.

A rapid expansion of mulberry planting made a 213 ton increase possible over last year's production, most of which was high quality. Unlike the rest of textile sector, one of Vietnam's current good hard currency earners, silk production had been neglected over the past years. New equipment and cheap labour allowed Vietnam to enter the international market when worldwide demand for natural silk began to increase in the early 1980s.

Red River Delta has managed to keep its reputation as Vietnam's behind the central coast and the south in actual silk output and mulberry growing. Of the total 22,00 hectares under mulberry cultivation, the Red River Delta has a mere 3,440 hectares while the southern region boasts 18,500.

The biggest mulberry growing area estimated at 11,000 hectares is Lam Dong on the central highlands where big foreign investment is turning the vast basaltic soil areas into one of Vietnam's biggest silk producing centres. Not outdone by silk producers in Lam Dong, efforts have also been made to set aside several other areas for mulberry growing and silk producing. They include Darlac Province, also on the central highlands, the provinces of Thai Binh and Hai Hung in the Red River Delta and the northern mountain province of Son La where soil and climatic conditions are similar to Lam Dong.

Already a new joint venture in silk production has been set up between silk producers in Hai Hung Province and their counterparts in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Silk producers in the whole country plan to produce more than 800 tonnes of silk this year with export turnover expected to reach USd 20 million. For its part, the Vietnam Union of Natual Silk and mulberry production enterprises strives to produce more than 600 tonnes for export estimated at USd 15 million in turnover, USd 9 million more than 1991.

New Zealand

Inflation Rate Drops to '1 Percent a Year'

BK1501082692 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] New Zealand's inflation rate has fallen to 1 percent a year, its lowest level for 31 years. The statistics department in Wellington says the country's consumer price index fell by .01 percent in the December quarter, the first quarterly fall since 1961.

The department statement said a fall in interest rates on home mortgages had been the main contributing factor to the latest drop in inflation. A fall in fruit prices had also helped.

Papua New Guinea

Bougainville Rebels Threaten To Blow Up Ship

BK1401064292 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] There has been another setback to the Red Cross relief efforts on Papua New Guinea's [PNG] Bougainville island. Radio Australia Port Moresby correspondent (Michael Troy) reports that the first relief ship allowed to berth at the rebel held port of Kieta has now been seized by the Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA].

[Begin (Troy) recording] The BRA have reportedly told the PNG Government that if there are any attempts to move the (M.V. Cosmaros) it will be blown up. During the weekend the chartered ship delivered urgently needed medical supplies and two Australian health workers to the war-torn island. The Red Cross says the two Australians are safe and well and the supplies have now been unloaded.

However, last week the PNG defense forces would not allow some of the ship's cargo, which include a four-wheel drive vehicle, emergency supplies, and medical equipment, to be taken to Bougainville and the cargo was unloaded in Rabaul.

I spoke with the ship's captain via radio phone today and he says the BRA are demanding these supplies be delivered to Kieta and that the PNG Government allow the islanders to sell their cacao crop. He denied that there was any threat to blow up the ship but said he had no idea when they will be allowed to leave. [end recording]

Forces Attempt To Free Detained Relief Ship

BK1501080092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0746 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Honiara, Jan 15 (AFP)—An attempt was ordered by Papua New Guinea defence forces to free the cargo vessel MV Cosmaris and its crew, hi-jacked by rebels in Bougainville's Kieta Harbour last Friday, the rebels claimed Wednesday.

Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) leader Francis Ona warned of retaliation if Port Moresby persists in trying to free the ship which he described as "acts of provocation and aggression" against the BRA.

"If the security forces are adamant on intervention, then BRA's retaliatory action will only make a mockery of the PNG leaders' resolution to seek a peaceful end to the Bougainville crisis," Ona said.

In a statement relayed by radio to the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corp., Ona said that contrary to reports elsewhere the ship was still under BRA control and secure in Kieta.

The Cosmaris, a 30-metre (100 feet) inter-island cargo vessel, was seized in protest against what the rebels say is Port Moresby's continuing economic blockade of the island.

Its captain John Gebugsu and all-Papua New Guinean crew of 12 are said to have been told they will not be harmed and that they are free to move around Kieta, but not to attempt to move the Cosmaris. The Papua New Guinea Government said this week the ship was on its way back to the mainland port of Rabaul where it is based. But in an interview broadcast by Papua New Guinea National Broadcasting Corp., the ship's owner Henry Chow said the vessel was still being held by the rebels.

Among the demands, the BRA wants Port Moresby to send a second vessel with commercial cargo earlier unloaded by the Cosmaris in Rabaul. It also wants a genuine end to the blockade imposed by the government on the secessionist-held island since last year.

Ona said in his message: "The Cosmaris is still being held as negotiations continue with the Port Moresby government on a number of demands issued after the BRA seized the vessel last Friday when it arrived with medical supplies."

He said acting Prime Minister Akoka Doi was expected to negotiate "by wireless" Wednesday with Joseph Kabui, the chairman of Bougainville's interim government. Ona also condemned attempts to free the ship.

Papua New Guinea patrol boats had been ordered on Monday morning to undertake a reconnaissance to locate the ship and to rescue it and its crew, he said. But it was unclear from his statement whether the attempt was actually carried out.

"Their actions are nothing less than acts of aggression against the Bougainville Revolutionary Army," he added.

The BRA firmly believed that the Cosmaris case and any future issue could best be handled "in a spirit of mutual respect and sensitivity between the two sides."